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Why football needs women and women need football

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GOING ONLINE with **Anna Friel** PLUS: Crème SUPPLEMENT



DEIDRICK PHOTOGRAPH: PIERS MACDONALI

Court victory for doctor's family

Man branded a killer in civil ruling

By Michael Horsnell

A MAN who has never been charged or appeared in a criminal court was branded a murderer by a judge yesterday in a ruling that made legal

Mr Justice Alliott said that the family of Joan Francisco, a gynaecologist who was strangled in her flat on Boxing Day. 1994, had proved during a three-week High Court hearing that she was murdered by Tony Diedrick, an obsessive former boyfriend who was questioned about the killing but released without charge.

The family had launched an civil action for £50,000 damages for assault and battery against Diedrick and were told by the judge that they had an overwhelming case. He said that he was satisfied that Diedrick had "struck and then strangled" the American-born doctor "by hand and by

Diedrick was not in court to hear the judgment, nor was he at his home in Maida Vale last he would appeal, but made no other comment.

Bereaved families have turned to the civil courts before when they have been disappointed by the outcome of criminal proceedings, but this was the first time that a man had been tried and found guilty in such a fashion with-

out a preceding trial.

In the only comparable case, Michael Brookes was jailed for the murder of 16year-old Lynn Siddens after her family's civil action ended with a £10,000 damages award. Brookes's teenage

stepson had originally stood

trial and been acquitted. The CPS is now under pressure to bring charges against Diedrick, an unemployed computer studies graduate. Murder squad detectives said that they would be reas-sessing the evidence and a spokesman for the CPS promised to consider the judge's comments very carefully. Soheitors for Dr Francisco's family said that if it still chose not

enge the decision through judicial review proceedings. Even so, the family may still be no nearer a criminal conviction that would send 38vear-old Diedrick to jail. Before launching a prosecution, the CPS must be satisfied

Obsessive boyfriend.

that there is more than a 50 per cent chance of securing a conviction. And if the case did night. His solicitors said that - come to trial, there would be a reasonable doubt - than the "balance of probabilities" that is needed to satisfy a civil

> Mr Justice Alliott said vesterday that he had decided to determine the case on the civil standard of proof, but he added that he was bearing in mind that the allegation was of the utmost gravity and could be established only by truly cogent evidence. Announcing his decision, he said: This is a dreadful judgment to have to pass on any man, and not one which I have come

to without the most anxious consideration, but I find the assault and battery alleged in effect the murder - to have been proved."

The court had been told that Diedrick had stalked Zi-yearold Dr Francisco for months out of a "violent and perverted obsession" before strangling her with a vacuum cleaner flex at her flat in St John's Wood, West London, when his obsession reached "terminal crisis".

to prosecute, they would chall-Dr Francisco's family had called 31 witnesses to prove that there was compelling circumstantial evidence against Diedrick, who declined to give evidence in his defence.

Of that decision, the judge said yesterday: "If the defendant did not kill the deceased, I deem it incredible that he would not seize the opportunity to declare his innocence rather than shelter behind a perceived tactical advantage.

"The effect of that failure is that a prima facie case becomes a very strong or even overwhelming case and I hold that the plaintiff has discharged the burden of proof upon which I have directed nyself."

Mr Justice Alliott also said in his 41-page judgment that the family had established that Diedrick was obsessed by Dr Francisco and regularly stalked her home; that he believed she was about to leave for America for good and was desperate to speak to her on the day she died; and that he had demonstrated explosive violence in a comparable Continued on page 3, col 1



Tony Diedrick, seen arriving at the court during the case. Joan Francisco was found strangled in her flat

MPs in **France** applaud fluent Blair

FROM BEN MACINITYRE IN PARIS

TONY BLAIR yesterday delivered a speech to the French parliament in which he pressed the three buttons most likely to endear him to French hearts: he praised actress Juliette Binoche; he teased his French political counterparts and, most remarkably, he spoke in a French that did not mangle the language of Molière beyond recognition.

In the first ever speech by a British Prime Minister to the French National Assembly, Mr Blair spoke for 40 minutes with barely a stumble, to the unconcealed astonishment of his listeners who have come to expect their language to be merrily butchered by British

The Prime Minister's fluency sent some MPs into linguis-tic overdrive. "Marvellous, brilliant, astonishing, exceptional, elegant," said Jack Lang, a former socialist culture minister, when asked to comment on Mr Blair's command of the language.

Less star-struck critics pointed out, however, that as the speech progressed and fatigue began to set in, the meaning of Mr Blair's words became increasingly obscured by an English accent.

Summoning up his youthful memories aș a bartender in Paris, the Prime Ministe served up a carefully blended cocktail of agreeable verb endings, correct genders and reverberating Rs, complete with a dollop of emphatic gallic hand gestures.

Joshing his socialist hosts, Mr Blair recalled how, in those bartending days, he had been told to put his tips in the till until he discovered he was the only barman to do so. That was my first lesson in Continued on page 2, col 1

> Peter Riddell, page 10 Leading article, page 19

Child gunmen shoot 13 in **Arkansas**

AT least one person was killed and 12 others injured last night when camouflaged gunmen opened fire on students as they assembled outside an Arkansas school during a fire alarm (Tom Rhodes writes).

Wayne Jordan of the Arkansas State police said that two people were in custody. He confirmed that one person was killed in the attack at Jonesboro but would not say whether it was a child or teacher. The suspects were aged between 11 and 15 and most of the injured were pupils.

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Hunt for black teenager's killers 'clouded by racism'

By Adrian Lee

RACISM "both conscious and subconscious" permeated the investigation into the murder of Stephen Lawrence. Police missed leads, bungled searches and ignored vital information from the public, a judicial

inquiry was told yesterday. Less than 24 hours after Stephen, 18, fell dying from stab wounds near a south London bus stop, detectives had the names of four of the five prime suspects. Within two weeks 26 sources had named members of a white gang, known locally as the But Neil Acourt, his brother

Jamie, Gary Dobson, Luke Knight and David Norris, then aged 16 and 17, were not arrested for three crucial weeks. In all, police made 28 mistakes, it was alleged. At the heart of the case was

not merely incompetence but racism. Michael Mansfield, QC, for the victim's parents, told the reopened hearing. Stephen - stabbed in an Eltham street on April 22, 1993 - was black. The magnitude of the fail-

ure cannot, in this case, be explained by mere incompe-tence or lack of dedication by senior officers ... or woeful under-resourcing. So much was missed by so many that deeper forces and causes must be considered, "Mr Mansfield

He added that "racism both conscious and subconscious, permeated the investigation". One question had to be addressed, he said. "Was the investigation ever intended to result in a successful prosecution?" Five youths were charged

Neil Acourt, Dobson and Knight faced an Old Bailey murder trial in an unsuccessful private prosecution, brought by Stephen's parents.
The first part of the hearing. expected to last eight weeks, aims to establish what went wrong during the investiga-

tion, and why. A second will consider lessons to be learnt. Kent Constabulary has conducted an inquiry into the Metropolitan Police investigation and concluded that there was a catalogue of missed

opportunities. A senior officer is facing possible disciplinary charges. Kent suggested II new lines of inquiry but no progress was made.

Mr Mansfield said yesterday that Neville and Doreen Lawrence were still dissatisfied. "It was another serious" misjudgment not to let Kent finish the job," he said. Stephen, like his parents,

was of good character, but the police initially treated his death as a gang killing and focused on his family, Mr Mansfield said.

Jeremy Gompertz, QC, for the Metropolitan Police, accepted there had been shortcomings in the investigation. With hindsight, officers should have done better. He rejected allegations of racism and added that there had never been any cover-up and there was no corruption.

Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, the inquiry chairman. emphasised that no one was on trial. A minute's silence was held for Stephen before the inquiry, which continues today, got under way.

Gascoigne moves to Middlesbrough

By JOHN GOODBODY

mercurial England international, yesterday joined Middlesbrough from Rangers for £3 million and could make his debut for his new club in the Coca-Cola Cup final at Wem-

bley on Sunday. Gascoigne, 30, gave up the chance of helping Rangers to win their tenth successive Scottish League championship this season but Middlesbrough are well placed to win promotion back to the FA Carling Premiership. The England midfielder,

PAUL GASCOIGNE, the who became a national figure when he burst into tears after being booked in the 1990 World Cup semi-final against West Germany, was signed by Bryan Robson, the captain of that England team and now the Middlesbrough manager. "Gazza will be part of my thinking for Wembley." Robson said last night, "but I will have to see what sort of shape

he is in first." Mel Stein, Gascoigne's adviser, said that leaving Rangers was "an enormous wrench" for the player. "He is very, very sad to be leaving Rangers. Paul said to me: 'I've left clubs before, but I've never been so sad about leaving a club.' But he's looking forward to the cup final on Sunday, he's looking forward to the promotion push, he's looking forward to the World Cup and

he's looking forward to the Premier League next year." Gascoigne's last appearance in a Wembley final was the 1991 FA Cup Final for Tottenham Hotspur against Notting-

North East return, page 44

Blackpool rocked as Labour opts for the South

BY ANDREW PIERCE AND POLLY NEWTON

THE Labour Party yesterday severed its 70-year-link with Blackpool, which revels in its reputation as one of Europe's brashest seaside towns, by moving its armual party conferences to. more genteel southern locations.

The decision has incurred the wrath of the town's formidable army of boarding house landladies. They ac-cused new Labour of betraying its

traditional working class supporters by opting for the charms of Brighton and Bournemouth. But one leading restaurateur said Blackpool had only itself to blame because the beers were too warm and the "loos smell". The Victorian resort has been host to

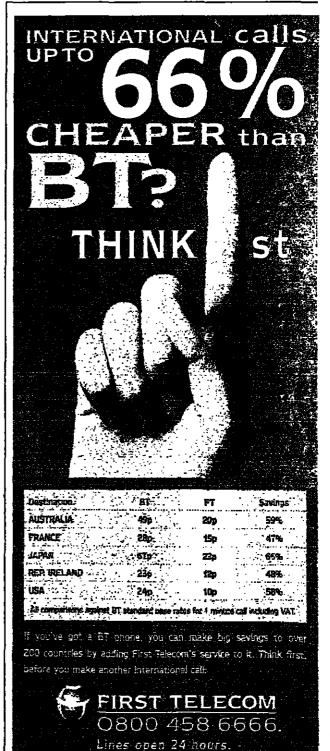
the Labour Party conference since the 1930s. But the conference this year will be the last. Bournemouth will take over in 1999 for the first time since 1985 and Brighton for the next two years.

uncomfortable one for the Labour Party apparatchiks. Doreen Cumpsty, the indomitable hostess of the White House, famously frequented last year by Kenneth Clarke and John Gummer during the Tory party conference, said: "Yes, we have heard they are going. Well, we will see about that. They said we keep shabby hotels. Wait until I get my hands on them."

. Labour chiefs were wooed by Brighton's offer of a lower price if the party are curling at the end. It is a very sad The last conference could be an staged two conferences in a row. A

Labour spokesman said: "It costs more to go to Blackpool. There was also some concern at the quality of the hotels and rates." But Bill Scott, proprietor of the River

House, frequented by every Labour leader since Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, was not surprised. He said: "I have been saying for years we should get our act together. The loos smell, the beer is 100 warm, and the sandwiches day for Blackpool."



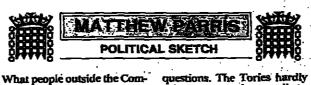
Killer bugs and asteroids - it's a mug's game for Labour

ays occur when the House of Commons takes on an Alice Through the Looking Glass air. Questions and answers never make contact with each other -- or with reality. What everyone wants to know is what nobody seems to ask. Ministers pontificate in response to inquiries nobody

Anthrax is a case in point. On Monday ministers had advised, in a written answer, that the giant asteroid that dominated the news a week ago was not, repeat not, going on new Labour's authority. The pledge should perhaps be printed on a sixth coffee mug. to add to the set of five coffeemug pledges already market-ed by Millbank Tower. "Treat More NHS Patients", "Smaller Class Sizes": "No Increase In Income Tax Rates": "Tough On Crime": "More Jobs For Young People" ... and now: "No Collision With

After yesterday a seventh mug can be spun from the potter's wheel: "No Anthrax As Far As We Know". Ministers, led by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, who made a Statement to the House, were absolutely emphatic that they had absolute confidence in absolutely categorical advice that Britain was probably not about to be hit with anthrax from Baghdad — as far as they knew, anyway.

But nobody is interested in Mr Straw's insistence that he has not received warning of an imminent anthrax attack. We had already assumed it. A minister preparing for the end of human life in Britain



mons want to know is whether he thinks he would know if the attack were imminent; how he would know; what he could do to repel it; whether it is possible (as the newspapers claim) to put anthrax in dutyfree whisky, and, if so, how customs officers could ever hope to check and find out. No MP seemed to ask these

questions. The Tories hardly asked any questions at all. As for Labour backbenchers, the poodle tendency simply want-ed to congratulate Mr Straw — as Sally Keeble (Northampton N) put it - on "his very measured response".

No minister disposed to pooh-pooh any sort of alarm has ever lacked a clutch of backbenchers ready to congranulate him on his very measured response. The To-ries were congratulated warmly on their very measured response to early warnings of BSE. Other MPs squeakily im-

plored the Home Secretary not to panic. While we don't want panic, squealed David Winnick (Lab, Walsall N), traq was "capable of any evil". mischievous Julian Lewis C, New Forest E) recalled recent press photographs of George Robertson being vaccinated for authrax, and mused that, though we had

been "deeply impressed by the bravery of the Defence Secrethis was "a little more selfinterested than it seemed at the time". Mr. Robertson, sitting on

the front bench beside Mr Straw, looked wounder!

But only Stephen Ladyman (Lab. Thanet S) came close to asking what British voters want asked. Mr. Ladyman Parliament contains no Mrs. Manlady) is a brave man-but then it takes comage to be a Ladyman. It must be terrifying to be so perilously depenapostrophe and "s" will turn you into a notorious womaniser, while an errant hyphen renders you a trans-vestite. Your whole political carear rests upon a typogra-

pher's steady eye.

The MP said he was "only partially reassused". Anthrax could be here already. What provisions had the Department of Health made to spot and treat

Jack Straw shot

Blair draws line in the sand over European state

TONY BLAIR placed a firm limit on further European integration yesterday, making plain there could be no European Union encroachment on policies covering education and health, the welfare state. personal taxation and culture.

In the first speech by a British prime minister to the French parliament, Mr Blair declared: "We don't want a Europe of conformity, a united states of Europe run by bu-reaucrats. Moving too swiftly towards integration could prove disastrous. Choosing when and how to move closer will determine whether our people accept the changes or rebel against them."

Speaking in fluent French, and drawing initially strong applause from rightwing MPs, Mr Blair balanced his call for closer co-operation on trade and the single market. competition policy, and even economic union with a warning that the EU must reform itself or risk alienating its citizens: "You do not have to be a Eurosceptic, in any shape or form, to appreciate the deep concern amongst our peoples relate to the new Europe."

He called for a new and deeper "entente" with France to help bring Europe closer to the people. We have had the courage to create the European Union," he said. "Now we must have the courage to

Taking his message to France of a 'third way' between laissez-faire liberalism and state control of the economy. Mr Blair swiftly found himself steering a tricky midPhilip Webster

and Ben Macintyre

report on a warning in

fluent French

dle course between the two intensely partisan sides of the French national assembly. His remarks in favour of

market flexibility drew loud applause from the French Right but met a pointed silence from the Left, while his references to tackling "social exclusion" evoked almost precisely the 'opposite response. When he remarked that there was no right or left politics in economics management today "There is only good and bad", the right applauded loudly, causing the Prime Minister to depart from his set text to add swiftly: "And it is being well

Mr Blair spelt out the need for a new political framework for the EU. He said: "A word of warning here, perhaps. We have an economic framework for the EU. We now need a political framework that is dramatically more relevant. more in touch than the present

Warning that politicians and people were getting out of step, he said: "This political vision for Europe is necessary now more than ever. There is a

people feel keenly.

"As we enlarge there is the opportunity for us to reconsider the essential mechanism of political accountability and control. We have had the courage to create the European Union. We must now have the courage to reform it." If Europe was to grow and prosper "Europe must be close to ordinary people's

Although he warned of the dangers of remoteness from the people and of an overweening Europe, Mr Blair did insist he was a strong supporter of the EU.

He was unapologetic about the Government's decision not to enter the first wave of the single currency, which the French finance minister has warned would leave Britain in the second division. There had to be sustainable economic convergence and at present it did not exist.

In apparent reassurance, he stressed: "We have said that the single currency in a single market makes sense and already British business and the City of London are fully geared up to dealing in and using the euro. We will be prepared - do not doubt that and will make a decision based on clear and unambiguous facts."

Later Mr Blair played down the fact that most applause had come from the Right. There was applause from both camps. If you can get applause from both sides that's good politics."

Leading article, page 19



Tony Blair addresses the French Assembly watched by Speaker Laurent Fabius

French Left and Right applaud fluent PM

Continued from page I applied socialism," he said, to gales of laughter from the right and rather more muted amusement from the French socialists. Moments later the chamber was reunited in appreciation when Mr Blair remarked: "The other night I had the pleasure of watching Juliette Binoche at the theatre in Naked. She was wonderful." Many in the chamber, unaware of the West End play, evidently took this to be some sort of splendid joke

and roared their approval at this risqué British sense of humour. Mr Blair speaks better French than

any prime minister since Anthony Eden, and many of his predecessors appeared to delight in inflicting complicated cruelties on the French tongue. Sir Winston Churchill regularly demonstrated his execrable schoolboy French and Edward Heath's stilted forays into the language are still remembered with pain. Even after intensive coaching, a

nation winced when Margaret Thatcher gave her speech in French to mark the opening of the Channel Tunnel.

Mr Blair may have received more applause from the Right than the French Left, dominated by old style socialists, but the benches behind Lionel Jospin, the French Premier, did their best to right the balance by cheering energetically whenever the New Labour oracle said something of which they could approve.

At times, Mr Blair's advocacy of a only a committed francophile, but middle way was all but drowned out possibly a Frenchman manque as each side of the French parliamentary sought to out do the other in its

enthusiasm for the unlikely French

speaking creature in their midst. The Prime Minister's recent interview on French television, his holiday in France last year, his promise to return again this year and now his address to the National Assembly have firmly planted the idea in French minds that Mr Blair is not

"Even his most celebrated political saying was inspired by a French philosopher," Le Figaro declared yesterday, claiming that Mr Blair's statement of priorities - "education, education, education" -- was directly borrowed from the 19th century French writer Jules Michelet

> Peter Riddell, page 10 Leading article, page 19

Straw plays down threat of anthrax attack on UK

By NICHOLAS WATT AND MICHAEL EVANS

JACK STRAW told the Commons yesterday that the Government had received intelligence on March 5 about possible anthrax smuggling by Iraqi agents, but he played down the potential threat to Britain.

In an emergency Commons statement, the Home Secretary said: "Our information is that there is no: specific threat to the LIK.
There is no evidence to indicate that any attempt lias. actually been made to smuggle anthrax into this country. There is also no evidence that such an attempt at smuggling might be in

His comments came after Downing Street had con-firmed that a warring had been issued to ports about the possibility of Iraq agents attempting to smuggle anthrax in bottles disguised as duty-free goods into western

countries

An all-ports warning" was sent to every Customs and Excise post on March 18, warning officers to be extra

Heart Home Secretary described the winning as a prudent, pregautionary measure. The warring was delayed for 13 days because the initial intelligence report had to be assessed in context" with other information available at the time. Mr Straw added that a similar warning had, been sent out "some time ago".

Whitehall sources said the anshrax was ning came in the form of "material" which was immediately circulated by intelligence services in the United States, Britain and other key European capitals which had supported Washington and London in the recent crisis with Iraq.

Although the discovery of a possible anthrax terrorist attack was made after the confrontation had been resolved between President Saddam Hussein and the United Nations over arms inspections, security sources indicated that the timing was not crucial.

The general intelligence assessment of the threat

posed by iraq since the deal UN Sectetary General, had not changed, even though the threat of conflict had

The discovery of material outlining the option of using anthrax in a terrorist attack. the sources said, underlined the continuing threat posed by the Saddam regime but did not indicate that the tragi leader was about to launch a biological terror operation against Britain or any other country.

The intelligence was not uncovered by MI5 which has responsibility for countering Middle Eastern terrorism. The original source appears to have emanated from someone in Baghdad.

UNLIKELY ROUTE FOR REVENGE

IF SADDAM Hussein hopes to decimate the population by a contaminating scent sprays and whisky, the desire for revenge has outstripped his knowledge of bacteriology (Dr Thomas Smillsford awares). A combininated scent

spray would be most likely to produce cuancous an-thrat, a condition characterised by a black ulcerating sore, treatable with heavy doses of penicillin.

Anthrax in whisky could give rise to gastrointestinal anthrax, occasionally seen in the past if people had eaten infected meat. This would not be an efficient way of spreading the

The form that would be the greatest worry is pulmonary anthrax, inhaled from dust into the lung tissue, and fatal within hours or days. Sometimes the symptoms are no worse than severe flu hat after the lims tissue has become infected bleeding compounds the effect of the initial damage done by infection.

Contaminated fly sprays or air fresheners would have to be employed to achieve such cases in a

No 10 denies intervention to aid Murdoch Italian deal

Labour says newspapers were wrong over telephone call, report Philip Webster and Richard Owen

TONY BLAIR said last night that he treated Rupert Murdoch no differently from any other busi-nessman with British interests, after strongly denying that he had intervened on behalf of the News Corporation chairman and chief executive in his attempt to buy an Italian television network.

Reports in yesterday's newspapers that the Prime Minister had asked Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, whether his Government would block the bid by BSkyB for Silvio Berlusconi's con-trolling interest in Mediaset deeply embarrassed Mr Blair, who has faced accusations that he has allowed himself to become too close to Mr Murdoch.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman said that claims that Mr Blair had intervened on behalf

of Mr Murdoch, whose company is parent company of *The Times*, were a "complete joke". But Downing Street and Mr Blair declined to give details of what had been raised in the conversation between the two Prime Ministers. Mr Blair's official spokesman

neither confirmed nor denied that the deal had been mentioned but added that "this was not a conversation about Rupert Murdoch". It was added later that they had agreed there would be no briefing on the conversation and this had been honoured. Mr Blair said that he did not discuss private telephone

The vehemence of the denials underlined the sensitivity of such

spokesman strongly attacked a report in the Financial Times which gave the most prominent coverage to the call yesterday. It was a joke and simply wrong, he said. The paper should not have used an anonymous Italian official to try to confirm a story that was

The Prime Minister generally spoke up for British firms and it would be odd if he did not his spokesman said. But there was no question of Mr Blair having lobbied for Mr Murdoch. It was also pointed out that Professor Prodi had called Mr Blair, rather than the other way round.

allegations for Mr Blair. His Blair had recently met Mr Murdoch, officials said that they did not intend to give details of private meetings or private telephone calls between Mr Blair and Mr Murdoch or anybody eise.

Questioned during his visit to Paris about the reports. Mr Blair said: "There is no question of offfering assistance to anybody. I treat Mr Murdoch no differently from anybody else in respect of any business with British interests." Talks between Mr Murdoch and

Signor Berlusconi took place last week, but broke down when Signor Berlusconi rejected a reported \$3.2 billion offer by Mr Murdoch for his controlling 50.6 per cent share in Asked by reporters whether Mr Mediaset, which includes his three

national commercial television channels

Signor Berlusconi, a self-made billionaire, was Prime Minister for nine months in 1994 and leads the Centre-Right opposition. But he faces several court cases arising from alleged conflicts of interest between his political activities and his business empire of 130 companies, which embraces not only television but also supermarkets, property, advertising and the AC Milan football club. A new law being discussed by the Prodi Government would oblige business-men who take public office to sell their assets or to place them in

On Monday, La Stampa of

Turin published an article imply-ing, without stating, that Mr Blair had intervened to support Mr. Murdoch's bid for Mediaset.

It said that Mr Blair had spokento Signor Prodi while the abortive Murdoch-Berlusconi negotiations were taking place last week, and went on: What did the two heads of government talk about? There is no point in asking Prodi's staff for the background, since they avoid any statement which might confirm this private conversation

But it is not difficult to find out that at BSkyR, flagship of The News Corporation, they are aware of Blair's initiative, which was probably inspired by Murdoch himself." The paper offered no

ian officials said that Mr Blair and Signor Prodi often spoken by phone but discussed matters relat-ing to Britain's current presidency of the European Union, and their conversations had "nothing to do with Mr Murdoch or Signor

Mediaset said that Signor Beriuscom had flown to London last weekend to "keep options open for the future. But Signor Berlusconi said he had decided not to sell Mediaset because he was "too attached to it" for "sentimental and family reasons".

Signor Berlusconi and Mr Murdoch met again at the weekend and spoke about the possibility of co-operation in future, but it is far from clear whether anything concrete will result.

Village sloggers survive appeal from boundary

VILLAGE cricket may seem to be the vision of rural content. but in Rolvenden, in the Weald of Kent, the wicket has been very sticky indeed.

A nasty row between an author who lives beside the village green and the 166-year-old Rolvenden Cricket Club was finally resolved in court yesterday, when the author's claim for damage done by balls hit into his garden and

on to his house was dismissed. Derek Sheffield, 69, represented himself, with his wife Barbara holding the briefs, at Ashford County Court. He wanted £3,000 in damages for nuisance and negligence from the club, whose wicket is just 60 yards from his 250-year-old, Grade II-listed house, Cherry Tree Cottage.

Mr Sheffield, the author of books on UFOs and a recent humorous trilogy of Kent novels, has lived beside the village green for 15 years but it is only in the past three years that he claimed his life had become unliveable. He told the court that he could no longer write, invite friends round or even step out of his house while matches were being played on the green, for fear of being hit by a well struck ball.

It got to a point where he and his wife would spend their afternoons upstairs in their bedroom "watching the balls coming over". They smashed a dining room window, damaged tiles on the garage roof. and scratched a double-glazed window. He said the cricket

Philip Delves

Broughton

on the case of

the neighbour

who sued for cricket damage

his complaints. Last seaso however, the club erected a 6ft. cricket net in front of Mr Sheffield's house and players were asked not to hit the ball too hard in that direction. Despite the cricket club's claim that this reduced hits on the Sheffield property to just -two in 1997, Mr Sheffield was still not happy, demanding a

Last year, the court was told, Mr Sheffield found it necessary to walk onto the pitch to halt play if balls hit his house. On one occasion, Mrs Sheffield ran onto the pitch and seized the stumps and bails. The police had to be called to sort out the melée.

John Williams, the club captain, defended the net as a great success. He said that the Sheffields had over the past 18 months left their car in their driveway during games on purpose, in the hope that it would be hit and they would have more ammunition for

Mr Williams called the cou-



Mr Hindley, from Rolvenden Cricket Club, and Mr

tory". "You must be extremely neurotic to think my wife leaves her car to be hit," replied Mr Sheffield. "I don't think I'm the neurotic one," said Mr Williams. The judge

sided with the cricketers. The star of the defence was Anne Cox, 86, who has lived in Lime Cottage, next door to the Sheffields, since 1970, when she retired from her post as head of the art department at Benenden School for Girls. Wearing a tweed skirt and purple jumper, she said: No ball has ever caused damage to my property," adding that she was a great follower of the village cricket team.

"Country activities should be encouraged and the playing of cricket on village greens is just such a country activity. Asked about the Sheffields' demand for higher netting, she said: "I think the netting would be too high and would make the green not look like a

Dismissing the Sheffields' action, Judge Edwina Mill-ward said: "It is very clear that when the plaintiffs bought this house in 1983 they were aware it faced onto a village green. They regard that as an amenity. It's unlikely to be built on and it's one of the attractions of living in a village. One cannot then say it is unreason-able for cricket to be played."

The judge awarded costs against the couple. Mr Williams said he was delighted with the court's ruling: "We have had fabulous support from the village," he said. "We want to maintain good relations with all our neighbours, including Mr and Mrs Sheffield.

Mr Sheffield said: "The next step is a criminal prosecution, which I have been told by the police I can take. But God help the next bloke who hits my house with a ball."

"I just want to go home and have a cup of tea," said Mrs Sheffield, "and maybe a cricket ball through the window." Her desire may soon be satisfied as the club has organised a record number of home



Hall calls on Newcastle fans to rally round

SIR JOHN HALL, the new chairman of Newcastle United, appealed yesterday for the families at the heart of the football club scandal to be allowed to put recent events behind them. In Sir John's first public

appearance since the dramatic resignation of his predecessor, Freddy Shepherd, and his son, Douglas Hall, from the board, he called on sup-porters to rally round and help the club and the team to

With his wife, Mae, sitting beside him, Sir John, 65, was close to tears as he spoke to a crowded press conference at St James's Park. "The effect on the Hail and Shepherd families has been awful and on Newcastle United has been sad to watch," he said.

His son and Mr Shepherd were "full of remorse" for their remarks about the club's players and supporters and the women of the North East. "They cannot apologise enough for the pain it has caused," he said. "These events are totally out of character as anyone who knows them knows. They are devoted to this club. They have worked tirelessly over the years to bring jobs and prosperity to this region. "At a time when this club

was on the brink of dropping into the Third Division they turned it into a Premiership force. They are responsible for bringing me into this club, for bringing in Kevin Keegan, for this stadium here and all the new development. Let nobody forget what they have done for this region." Sir John questioned why

his son and Mr Shepherd had been targeted by the News Of the World. The vilification Douglas and Freddy have been put though has been terrible to watch. Yes, it was self-inflicted, but were they MPs? Were they drugs barons? Were they arms dealers? Was anything that was said in the public interest? No. One has to ask who set up this elaborate and expensive scam."

In a statement in response

"scam" against his son and Mr Shepherd, Stuart Kuttner, Managing Editor of the News of the World, said: "As a result of an entirely legitimate newspaper investiga-tion the News of the World revealed matters of serious public interest at the heart of Newcastle United.

"The facts we uncovered were grave enough to result in the resignation of the club's two most senior executives. That alone justifies what the newspaper pub-

As Sir John was speaking. iubilant fans were claiming victory over the Newcastle board. Motorists tooted their car horns in



Douglas Hall: quit

approval and several raised a clenched fist in victory.

However, the resignation of the two directors after a 16hour boardroom battle owed as much to pressure from the City as to the power of the fans. Victory in the end went to Sir Terence Harrison, the non-executive chairman of the plc, who had openly declared that unless Messrs Shepherd and Hall went, he and the other two independent directors would.

Sir John's appointment only four months after retiring, together with good interim trading results announced yesterday, pushed the club's share price up 5p by the end of the day.

Stake cut, page 23 City commentary, page 27

Judge brands man a killer

Continued from page I situation in the past. The judge also noted that Diedrick had no alibi for the morning of the murder and repeatedly lied when first interviewed by the

judge said that The Diedrick had been lurking in Dr Francisco's garden when she opened the back door to put out the rubbish, had surprised her and gained admittance. He probably had no premeditated intent to kill when he entered the flat: "But I am satisfied that he first struck and then strangled the deceased by hand and

The amount of damages will be set later and Diedrick was ordered to pay the costs of the

The judge had announced at the start that he had found for the Francisco family and there were gasps of delight from Dr Francisco's widowed mother, Venus, and her sisters Margrette and Celia. Margrette Francisco, a lawyer in Los Angeles, said later that they felt "overwhelmed, re-lieved, disbelieving and pleased".

She said: "It has been over three years since Joan was taken from us and it has been a very long and difficult struggle fraught with many

obstacles. It has been an ordeal to achieve today's result. We feel the road to justice has finally been opened to us.

"Our family has been through a very very tough time, and to have this result made all the struggles worth it. I am well aware of the precedent this judgment will set. People will be aware the system can be challenged and justice obtained." The battle to achieve justice for her sister would go on, she said, and the CPS would be "strongly urged" to review the case

said later that they were considering the outcome of the action and whatever implications on their investigation. However, at this stage no decision has been reached on whether police will be submitting a new report to the CPS to consider bringing criminal charges against any individual."

The investigation had been "thoroughly and professionally" carried out; 280 statements were taken, 520 items became police exhibits; about 400 documents had been seized and 290 messages relating the urgently. 290 messages relating the Metropolitan Police inquiry had been received.



Margrette, Venus and Celia Francisco after their. High Court victory yesterday

ANOTHER WAY TO JUSTICE

A small but increasing number of cases have been taken to civil courts after lack of action by the prosecution authorities (Frances Gibb writes). Plaintiffs can seek damages, or seek a indicial review against the prosecution service itself.

In 1985, an Essex primary school teacher lodged the first civil claim for a sexual assault where there criminal conviction.

Last summer, there were judicial-review proceed-ings in cases where the DPP had decided against prosecuting police officers after deaths in custody. The DPP changed her mind and proceeded in one case. A second is still pending.

Yesterday John Wadham, director of Liberty, said: "Using civil proceedings as a substitute for a criminal trial is unsatisfactory both for the victim and for defendants, who lose the safeguards built into the criminal procedure."

HIGH-FLYER FULL OF LIFE AND JOY TIMEBOMB WHO TURNED STALKER

JOAN FRANCISCO was a dedicated doctor on the wards at Queen Charlotte's Hospital in London (Michael Horsnell writes). When her day's work was over, she indulged her passion for music, dance and enjoying the company of ce-lebrities. Her vivacity entranced all who met her.

A high-flyer, earning £45,000 a year when she died. she was to take a new post at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, East London, as a next step to a consultancy in obstetrics and gynaecology. Dr. Francisco was portrayed

by Ronald Thwaites, QC, for Authory Diedrick, as a "social interfly who naively consorted with unsavoury men and enjoyed making berself the centre of attraction. But that was dismissed by her sisters, who said that, while she enjoyed going to nightdubs - where her circle included the footballer Justin Fashanu and the boxer Len-

and conscious of her security. Her parents met in Britain after Venus, a nurse, emigrat-

ed from St Lucia, and Alfred, a teacher, from Belize. They brought up their three daugh-ters as Roman Catholics. Dr Francisco was educated at a convent school in Isleworth, West London. She went to ballet and piano classes, and loved swimming, dancing and nethall. She considered a career in the law - the route her sisters took - before opting for medicine.

Her mother said: "She was a very happy girl, very kind and affectionate. I miss Joan so much."

She left the family home for a basement flat the year before her death. She decided to make the move after noise from construction work on an Underground line near her parents' home deprived her of sleep when she was on night

nox Lewis — she was sensible ANTHONY DIEDRICK was a "walking timebomb", unable to come to terms with his rejection by Joan Francisco (Michael Horsnell writes). Alternating between anger and despair, he spent hours on the telephone talking to the Samaritans as well as stalking her at home and at work.

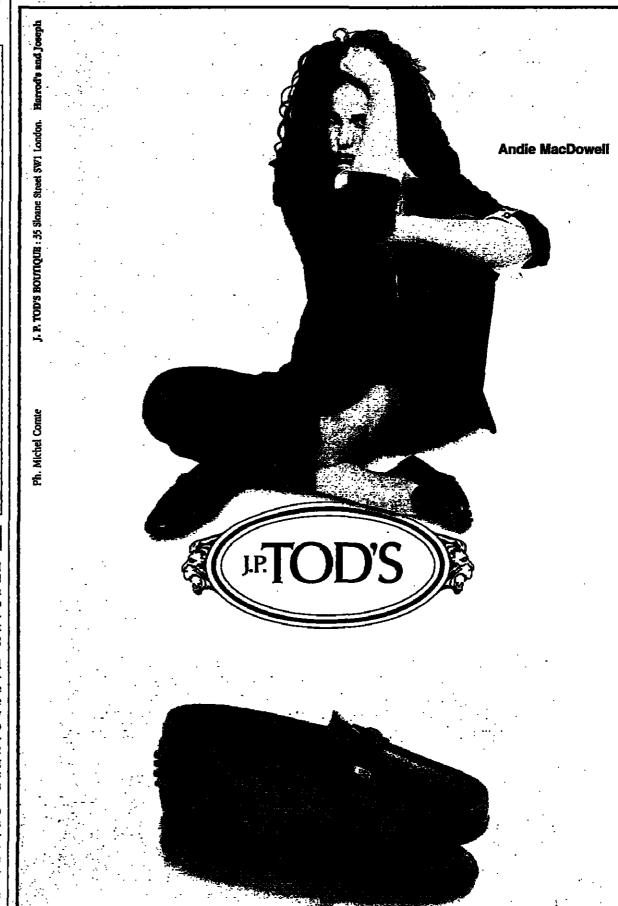
During the relationship, Dr Francisco's sisters had grown alarmed by his temper. Her middle sister, Celia, 33, sent a chilling warning in a letter: "It seems to me he is a walking timebomb and, honey, your time is running out . . . Is the end of your medical career worth it for Tony Diedrick?"

Anthony Gilroy Diedrick was born on November II. 1959, while his father, Roy, was on National Service with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. The family bome was m Paddington, West London, where his mother. Adella. raised him and his brothers and sisters in unexceptional

circumstances. He developed an interest in jazz and worked as a disc jockey in clubs with his brother Michael. He also worked as a marshal at Westminster Abbey, where he met Keith Hunt, a deputy cleaning superintendent.

Mr Hunt was one of several friends who, having been concerned about his obsessive behaviour, contacted police after Miss Francisco's body was found. Mr Hunt, who heard of the death on television news, said: "I thought that maybe he had something to do with her death. I was shaking for about five minutes afterwards."

Police asked him to talk to Diedrick while wearing a microphone. In one conversation, Diedrick said Dr Francisco's death was 'a terrible thing ... like a dream", without explaining what he meant. The Crown Prosecution Service ruled that there was insuffi-



Random killer picked on judge's daughter

judge's daughter, slashing her throat because she refused to give him money, Liverpool Crown Court was told

Hours later Nicholas Burton, 27, ambushed a 17-yearold student at knifepoint, threatened to kill her and forced her to drive 100 miles before she managed to escape.

Burton, from New Mills, Derbyshire, who said that he heard voices in his head, had selected his first victim, Rachel McGrath, 27, at random as she waited at closing time on a Friday night last April to pick up her boyfriend outside the Victoria Tavero, in Bramhail, Greater Manchester.

He inflicted "appalling injuries" on Miss Grath, a building society assistant manager, and left her dying on the pavement to be discovered by her boyfriend.

Anthony Gee, QC, for the prosecution, said that Burton maintained he was not guilty of any offence because he was insane. His defence counsel will seek to prove that at the time he killed Miss McGrath he was suffering from diminished responsibility, attracting

Court told that loner made study

of stabbing techniques from forces literature, reports Russell Jenkins

her boyfriend, at the pub so

that he would not have to

drink and drive. She would

return at closing time to collect

him. Mr Forster described her

as "quiet, fun-loving, intelli-

gent and entirely respectable".

heard a girl screaming and a

motorist saw a body on the

pavement and a man standing

ten feet away. The pathologist

found several slashes to Miss

McGrath's neck, where the

knife had been used in a

sawing action, with great

force, cutting through to the

prosecution alleged, Burton ambushed Miss Van Gerko, of

Gatley, Greater Manchester.

as she stopped at a news-

agents. He thrust his knife at

her and asked her very quiet-

ly: "Give me all your money

and get in the car please." At one point during Miss Van

Gerko's II-hour ordeal he

slashed the seat belt to bind

and gag her and forced her into the boot of her Fiat Panda

Almost nine hours later, the

At about 11pm residents

ton confessed to a fellow inmate at Strangeways prison that he murdered Miss McGrath because she would not give him money and that he had planned the attack. He boasted about killing a judge's daughter: "He said he had done it in a controlled manner, having read of the way to do it

in Special Forces literature.

and to make sure she went

down to the floor he stabbed

her in the leg." Earlier Burton pleaded not guilty to murdering Miss McGrath on April 25 last year; not guilty to kidnapping Debra Van Gerko the following day and not guilty to falsely imprisoning her and

making a threat to kill. Burton had been seen nursing a pint of Guinness in the Victoria Tavern on the night of the murder. He tried to engage strangers in conversation and cadged £1 for some

Miss McGrath, from Wilmslow, Cheshire, regular-ly dropped off Kevin Forster, while he stopped for petrol. He told her: "Don't scream or I il kili you."

For four hours that Saturday afternoon, Burton parked up in the hills above Caernarfon waiting for darkness. He chatted at length to a terrified Miss Van Gerko, explaining his conviction that God had forgiven him for his sins.

Later he slung his arm around her when he forced her to extract £100 using hercash card.

But as they stopped at a second service station, she thrust open the car door and dashed to a nearby taxi pleading for help. Burton calmly

He was arrested in the early hours the following day as he slept in the British Hotel, in Bangor, where he had enjoyed a fillet steak and a polite chat with another guest about Baroness Thatcher, religion and

Mr Gee said police immediately notice a sudden change in the way he presented himself. He stared fixedly and refused to answer questions. He had tried to wash his clothes and training shoes but forensic examination found traces of the dead woman's

blood.



Bristol City thugs jailed and banned for five years

ELEVEN football supporters who attacked a rival team's players during a pitch invasion were jailed yesterday for between three and eight months and banned from every football ground in the world for five years.

The Bristol City supporters were among hundreds of people who invaded the pitch after a derby against rivals Bristol Rovers. The Rovers' players who moments before had been celebrating a late equaliser were punched and kicked as they fled the field.

Film of the incident at the Ashton Gate ground in Deand police surveillance cam-

100

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

eras was shown at Bristol Crown Court vesterday. Fans who surged onto the

pitch after the goal were initially pushed back by police but, as soon as the final whistle went the invasion turned into a full-scale riot. The footage showed one

Rovers player being hit on the side of the head as others tried to reach the tunnel ahead of the mob. Those attacked included ex-Manchester United star Lee Martin and Rovers' player-manager Holloway. Goalkeeper Andy Collett was pursued down the tunnel before being led to

After jailing the men, Judge

John Foley made an order under the Football Spectators Act banning them from every soccer ground in Britain and from travelling abroad to attend matches for five years.

He said: "It seems that attacks on players are unprecedented. Players have to be protected. They are entertainers on the pitch. It is their

Judge Foley told the men: "Soccer in this country has substantially cleaned up its image and encouraged young people and families to come to games. You have spoiled all that in this locality. You let down the club you purport to

Special deals with Revenue may not exempt taxpayers from prosecution

By Frances GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of taxpayers who reach a deal with the Inland Revenue each year over unpaid tax could face prosecution after a Court of Appeal ruling published

The appeal court judges have effectively said that such settlements — always. understood to be a way people can wipe the slate clean — do not preclude the possibility of prosecution. David-Rothenberg an accountant with Blick Rothenberg, said: "The impact of this ruling is dramatic. Hundreds of people who have committed tax 'naughties' reachthese settlements every year."

Although the Revenue retained the right to prosecute, it was understood that that was not done unless it later emerged that the taxpayer had been lyang, he said. "That was regarded as the end of the

matter." Such settlements were known as 'Hansard" settlements after the first statement about them in Hansard, the record of Parliamentary proceedings, in

Peter Kerapster, a solicitor and tax partner with Nabarro Nathanson, said the implications might go beyond the people — "possibly thousands " a year -who reached these agreements. "People who thought these tax matters were all done and dusted and put the file away might now find a man in blue knocking

on the door. There is no statutory

limitation on police opening up this sort of

So-called Hansard deals were offered to a range of tax evaders whose offences stopped short of what the Revenue called the "Remous", he said. In those serious cases there was no question but that there would be a prosecution. Otherwise the

deals provided a way poeple could pay the

tax they owed and "make a clean breast of things" on the understanding charges would not be brought. "It removes a major weapon in the armoury of the

Revenue's special compliance unit. It also raised questions about how confidential files on a taxpayer would be and whether these would be privileged, he said. The Revenue is now never going to be able to convince a taxpayer that the file can be put away and that is the end of the matter." People would not be prepared to come forward and take the risk, he said.

The impact of the ruling, which may be challenged in the Lords, goes beyond the right of the Revenue to prosecute in such cases and could extend to other prosecuting authorities such as the Department of Trade and Industry and the Serious Fraud Office, he added.

A spokesman for the Inland Revenue said: "We are considering the terms of the judgment and its resulting implications.

Veteran gunman bites the bullet

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE veteran actor Pierce the world's worst gunfighter yesterday, after failing to win a single shootout in more than 400 films.

Mr Lyden, 90, spent 30 years being hanged, stabbed dragged behind horses and trampled by stampeding cattle. He traded bullets with film Wayne and Gregory Peck and was invariably beaten to the draw, outgunned

and left for dead. Now the Californian who is thought to be one of only six of Hollywood's regular B-Western "badmen" left, has arrived in England to don his stetson at the London B-Western film convention this

He said yesterday: "I never won a light. I fought the likes of Roy Rogers and Gene Autry and I had to get whipped by every one. I'm the last of the Hollywood badmen. There were about 85 of us,

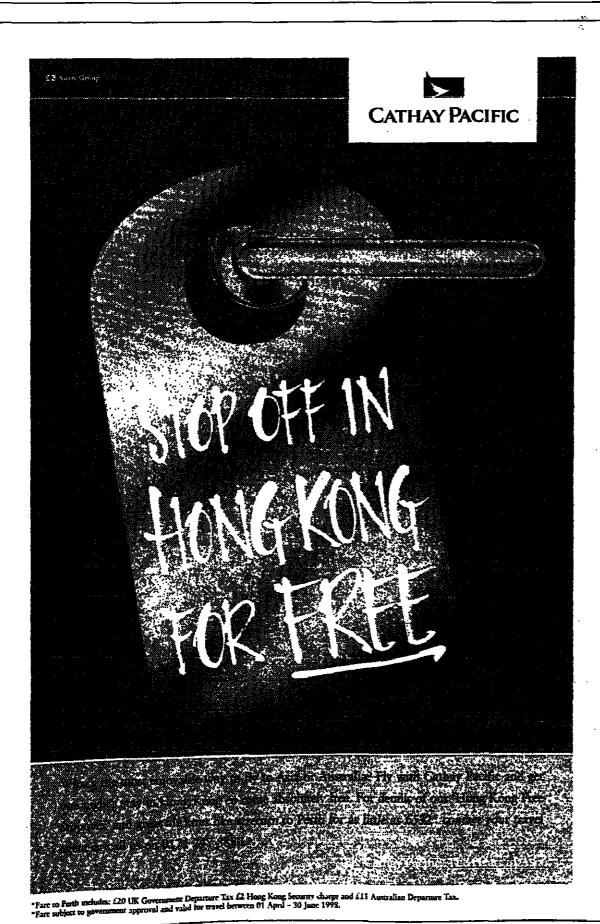
but now they're all gone."

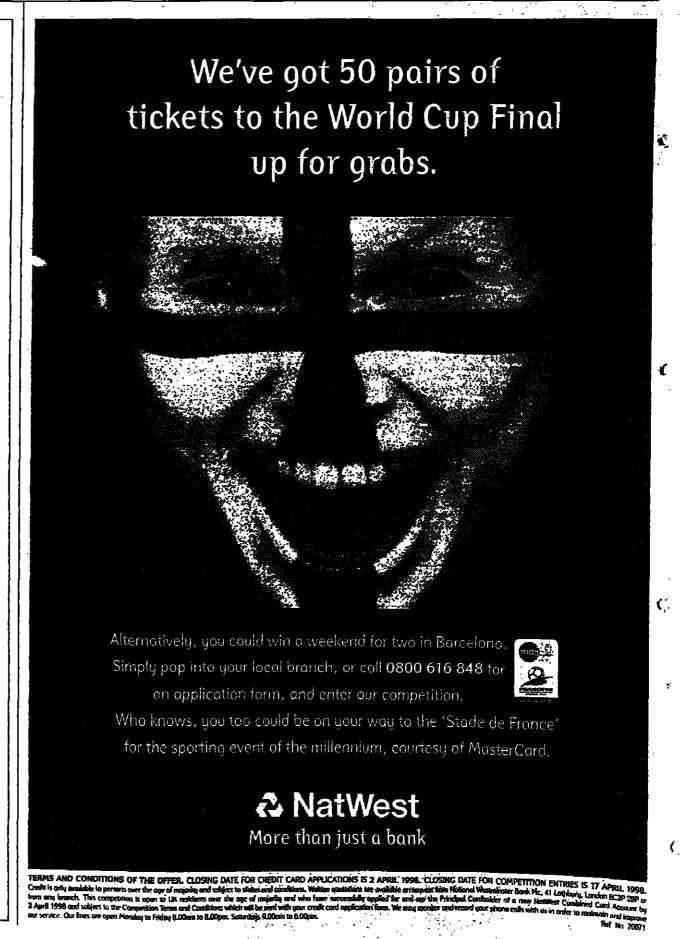
Mr Lyden will be the star of the annual convention, which takes place at the Victory Service Club at Marble Arch. About 200 B-Western fans will turn up to watch films featuring

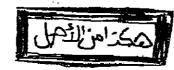
him and to question him. Mr Lyden said of his appearances in films in 1930s, 40s and 50s: "It was a great business to be in. It was a lot of action and a lot of hard work, but I did all my own stunts."



Lyden: last of the Hollywood badmen







211mm

bites #

Titanic scuppers British Oscar hopes







Kim Basinger (best supporting actress) celebrates with her husband Alec Baldwin; Helen Hunt and Jack Nicholson, who won best actress and best actor for As Good as It Gets; Kate Winslet with her boyfriend, Jim Threapleton

Hollywood honours its own as The Full Monty is left to face

the music. Giles Whittell reports

IN THE end, it was a night when Hollywood reclaimed the Oscars from transatlantic usurpers and independent upstarts. Titanic, the definitive studio blockbuster film of the awards than its rivals put together, while the all-American romantic comedy As Good as It Gets won best actor and actress awards.

The four British acresses in the running for best actress -Kate Winslet, Helena Bonham Carter, Dame Judi Dench and Julie Christie — had to put a brave face on disappointment and The Full Monty went home with Britain's only prize, for best original musical or-

Titanic's haul of 11 Oscars, including the one for best picture, came as no surprise. But it raised the har for directors of modern epics by matching an Oscar record set decades ago and putting the film on course to be the first to earn \$600 million (£400 mil-

lion) in America. Winslet was left out of the Titanic sweep and said bluntly to her supporters at a party on Monday night. "Sorry to have let you down." With an intensely physical role as an heiress aboard the doomed liner, she had nonetheless

helped to make film history.

Dame Judi was released from her current West End production for two days to attend the Oscar ritual at the Shrine Auditorium in South Central Los Angeles. The star of Mrs Brown insisted that the trip had been worth it, even though she flies home today

"I expected this to happen, and in fact I told my husband it would before we left," she said. "I am just thrilled to be

Bonnam Carter seemed more exhausted than thrilled, but still defiant. Considered a longshot for best actress, despite rave reviews for her work in The Wings of the Dove, she said of the winning performance by Helen Hunt, the only American on the shortlist: "I've seen it and she deserved it - but I think I deserved it, too."

When Jack Nicholson followed Hunt to the podium as best actor, even American commentators felt a need to explain the success of As Good as It Gets - a low-key ensemble piece directed by Jim Brooks about an obsessivecompolitive writer who falls for both a waitress and a dog.

It contains several features America loves," Roger Ebert, the country's most influential critic, said. "Weird characters are redeemed, tough women stand up to mean men, and there's a dog, for heaven's sake." Many of the academy's

5,000 members will not have seen Mrs Brown or Miss Christie's Afterglow.

Nicholson became one of only four performers to win three or more Oscars, having Over The Cuckoo's Nest and Terms of Endearment. He gave by no means the performance of his career in As Good as It Gets, but he did what the academy likes, which is Jack being Jack. Mr Ebert

He added: "The voters were making up for the fact that they were giving all the other prizes to Titanic.

This may have been equally true of the supporting roles. Stuart, despite her status as sentimental favourite for her turn as a 101-year-old survivor in Titanic, Minnie Driver, in a scarlet gown with plunging to have chosen after trying on 300 others — was likewise overlooked for her role in Good Will Hunting.

Anne Dudley won for The Full Monty music

She did not try to disguise her disappointment. "It was a great night for everyone but me," she said at a party hosted by Vanity Fair. "I'm categorically a big loser tonight — but let me tell you this is only the beginning."
The Full Monty took home

only one of the four Oscars for which it was nominated. Anne Dudley won for her musical score and confessed that when her agent first described the film she thought, We're scraping the barrel here ... but when I saw it I realised it was about more than five fellas stripping. It's about the hardship, comradeship and the trials of the human spirit."
On his way into the Vanity Fair party, Jeremy Irons said: Talent doesn't have much to do with winning an Oscar, but the voters do have a collective memory, so at least Kate and Helena needn't worry. Their

Arts, pages 35-37

THE WINNERS

Best picture: Theric, best actor: Jack Nicholson, As Good as it Gets, best director: James Cameron, actress: Helen Hunt, As Good as it Gets; best director: James Cameron, actress: Helen Hunt, As Good as it Gets; best director: James Cameron, actress: Helen Hunt, As Good as it Gets; best director: James Cameron, actress: Kim Basinger, LA Confidential; best art direction: apperting actress: Kim Basinger, LA Confidential; best art direction: best Theric. Deborah L Scoti; best makerup: Man in Black, Rick costsme design: Theric, Deborah L Scoti; best makerup: Man in Black, Rick costsme design: Theric, Deborah L Scoti; best makerup: Man in Black, Rick costsme design: Theric, Deborah L Scoti; best makerup: Man in Black, Rick costsme design: Assistance and Virtue, Chris Tashima and Chris Donatue; best animated short film: Geti's Garne, Jan Pinkava; best Donatue; best animated short film: Geti's Garne, Jan Pinkava; best documentary teature: The Long Way Home, Rabbi Marvin, Higr and Richard Kanter, best sound: Thank, Gary Rydstrom, Tom Johnson, and Michael Kanter, best sound: Thank, Gary Rydstrom, Tom Johnson, James Homer, Best original musical Best original dramatic soore: Thank, James Homer, best original musical Bast original dramatic soore: Thank, James Homer, best original musical Bast original dramatic soore: Thank, James Homer, best original song: My or comedy score: The Full Monty, Anne Dudley; best original song: My or comedy score: The Full Monty, Anne Dudley; best original song: My or comedy score: The Full Monty, Anne Dudley; best original song: My or comedy score: The Full Monty, Anne Dudley; best original song: My or comedy score: The Full Monty, Anne Dudley; best original film: Character, The Netherlands (First Floor Best Boreign language film: Character, The Netherlands (First Floor Best Boreign) set schievement in charmatography: Tilanic, Russell Carpenter Damon; best schievement in charmatography: Tilanic, Russell Carpenter



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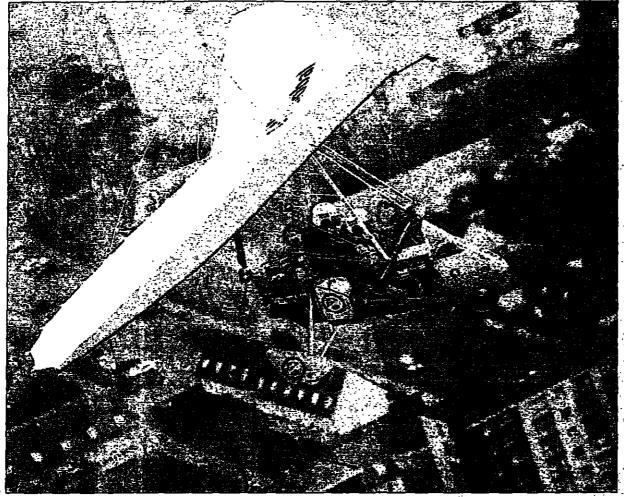
Microlight crash mars the start of world flight

By Damian Whitworth AND ROBIN EGGAR

A MICROLIGHT pilot was in a critical condition last night after taking off into a plate-glass wall.

Phil Good, 45, had been part of a flying flotilla of about 30 craft from Weybridge, Surrey, to Le Touquet, accompanying two Britons on the first leg of an attempt to fly around the world in 80 days. As he prepared for the return journey, his engine appeared to become engaged at full throt-tle before he had taken his ploughed into the Le Touquet terminal building at 40mph.

Mr Good, a computer pro-grammer from Baldock. Hertfordshire, suffered serious head injuries. His wife, Heather, was at his hospital bedside after flying from England last night. The two world fliers. Brian Milton and Keith Reynolds, were expected to be told of the accident when they landed in southern Germany.



Brian Milton and Keith Reynolds over Le Touquet at the start of their flight, unaware of the accident

Top surgeon saw, accused sculptor as modern Leonardo

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A SCULPTOR accused of stealing body parts from the Royal College of Surgeons was interested in doing a 20thcentury Leonardo da Vinci", a

In a letter of introduction to the college's anatomy depart-ment. Richard. Heald, the college's vice-president, said' Anthony-Noel Kelly was a serious medical artist of considerable talent and urged the department to allow him to sketch there. Mr Heald added that Mr Kelly, 42, had spent hours in his surgery and in mortuaries and abattoirs proving his commitment to

Mr Kelly and Niel Lindsay. 25, a former laboratory assistant, deny their from the college between June 1991 and November 1994. The artist, of Clapham, South London, denies a further count of handling stolen goods.

The court has been told that the men smuggled heads, tor-

sos and limbs from the college for Mr Kelly to use in his sculptures. Police began an investigation after a government inspector saw photographs of Mr Kelly's first exhibition and eomacted

Churnmy Sinnatamby, the head of anatomy at the college. told Southwark Crown Court. that he understood the Leonardo reference to mean that Mr Kelly wanted to make anatomical drawings of human bodies, like the Renaissance artist.

Dr Sinnatamby said that Mr Kelly began visiting the anatomy laboratories in 1992 and spent long hours studying dissected remains. He would sit in the dissection room forhours on end. It intrigued me," Dr Sinnatamby said. He said he liked looking at the human form. He found it relaxing. I got the impression

the way he sat in from of the

Dr Sinnatamby said that hodies left to the college for scientific study, on the understanding that they would eventually be buried or the mated could be kept in jars of preserving fluid indefinitely. legislation limited the time that most institutions could keep specimens, but the college had dispensation and was

deemed consecrated ground. The jury sperit an hour looking at gruesome photographs of body parts recovered by police. They included feet, hands and arms, sliced cross-sections of legs, a brain, and a mud-covered head and torso which Mr Kelly alleg ly buried in the grounds of his family's estate in Kent.

Dr Sinnatamby said that a considerable amount of time and skill went into preparing such things for medical exami nation. "It is quite an art." he

Special nonces

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 1998

IS RAILTRACK DOING?

E1.2 BILLION INVESTED IN 1997/98 163 STATIONS REGENERATED

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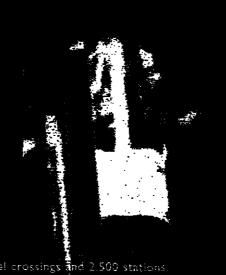
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RAILTRACK





NEWS IN BRIEF Hoffman's

artistic, qualities about him by

daughter stole £5,000

Dustin Hoffman's adopted daughter admitted yesterday obtaining more than \$5,000 by deception from her former employer. Karina Hoffman-Birkhead, 32, of Mildenhall. Suffolk, daughter of the ac-tor's former wife, Anne Byrne, stole cheaves from a firm that lets caravans to film companies. Sentencing was adjourned by magistrates at Newmarket.

Murder charge

bartonshire, and John Francis Parker, 27, of Ayrshire, were remanded in custody by Dum-barton Sheriff Court charged with murdering Roddy and Ann Marie Aitken, of Aberfoyle, Perthshire, who went missing in December.

Illegal road race

West Midlands Police are studying seven hours of footage from security cameras to trace more than 300 drivers in an illegal road race through Tamworth and Cannock. It was advertised on the Internet and watched by up to L000 spectators. 7

Security smoke

Cash deliveries made by the Securicor company will from this week be made in boxes. that will damage the notes in them with dye and smoke if they are opened in the wrong place. The "Smokeboxes" are a response to last year's 83 per cent rise in raids on guards. . .

Car disabled

A doctor whose car was towed away from outside his home. in Walworth, South London, after council workers painted a disabled bay round it is disputing the £147 recovery fee. Southwark council said it would treat Shane Tibby's appeal sympathetically.

Hero's farewell

A war hero who settled in A war neto wito scined in Britain was given an Ameri-can military funeral at Madingley cemetery, near Cambridge Paul Hicks, DSC, 72, died last week, A navigator, he flew a crippled bomber back from Germany in 1944 when the pilots were hit.

Electric cars get battery boost

By Nigel Hawkes SCIENCE EDITOR

ASXSTEM that can recharge deticales in minutes rather than hours could transform. electric vehicles, à conference in London will be told this

Research has shown that traditional lead-acid batteries. can be recharged in as little as 🤇 three minutes, hardly longer than it takes to fill a car with petrol. The rapid recharge system also increases, rather unexpected bonus. A chain of recharging stations could top up batteries while motorists wait, greatly increasing the

appeal of electric cars. The research has been carried out by the Advanced Lead-Acid Battery Consortium (ALABC), a group of companies involved in the lead, battery and electricity generation industries it was started after the American Government set up an Advanced Battery Consortium to develop new batteries, excluding lead-acid as a technology with no future.

In the past it was impossible to recharge lead-acid batteries rapidly. Acid build-up hear 🏟 the plates caused a rapid increase in electrical resis-tance, which in turn caused overheating and the risk of explosion. The new system, to be discussed at a conference this week, uses electronic controis to prevent that happening. The huge charging currents, up to 3,000 amps. are delivered in pulses lasting a tenth of a second with an eight-millisecond gap to allow the acid to disperse and resistance to remain low.

"It is all controlled by computer." David Prengaman. president of RSR Technologies, a Dallas-based company involved in battery development said. Ten years ago, we couldn't have controlled the charging currents

but now we can. Research by the consortium has also increased the capacity of lead-acid batteries by 40 per cent and they now believe that the batteries dismissed by one American official as "dinosaur technology" could, in fact, power a new generation of electric cars.

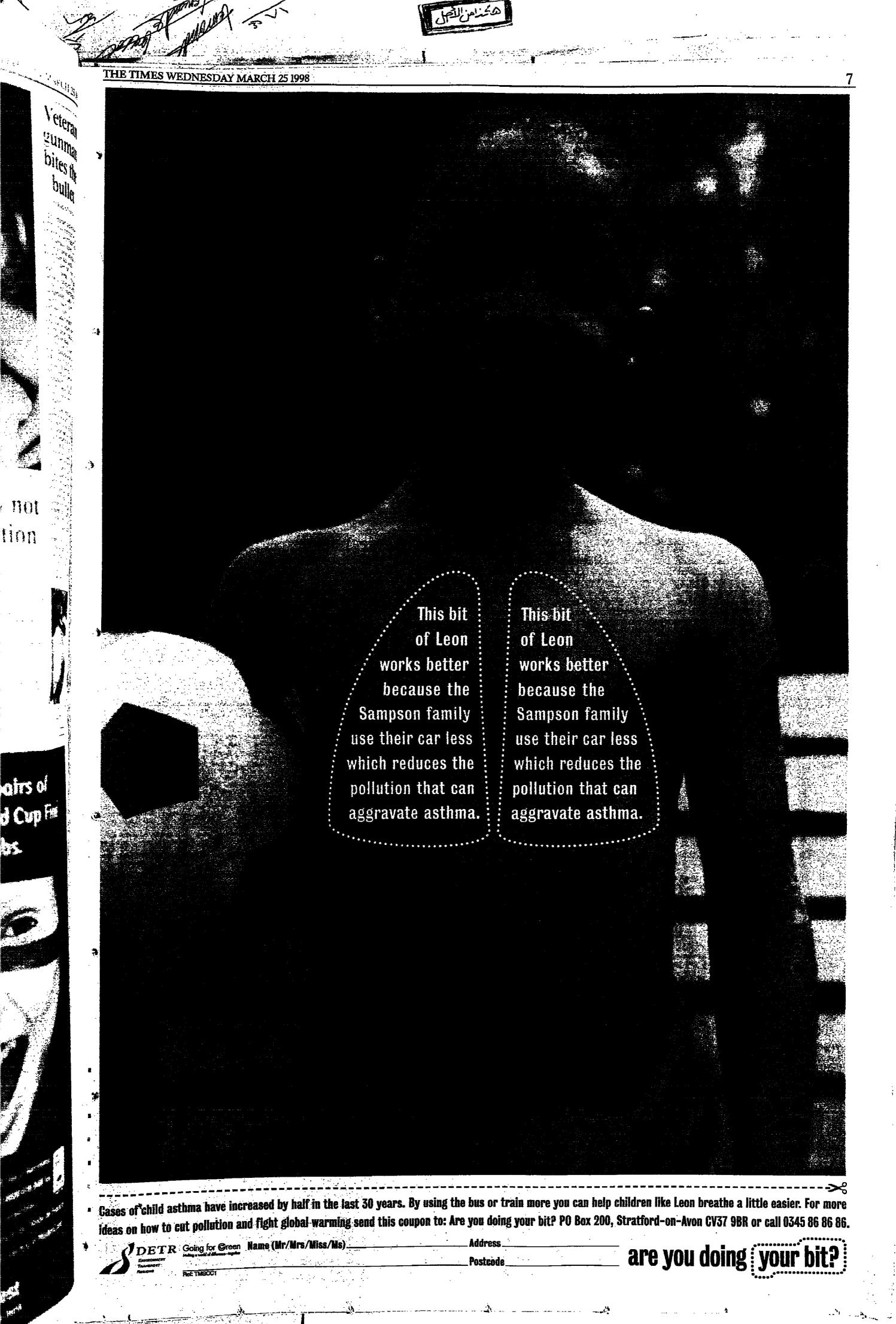
informative:

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The First Direct Visa Card Points Programme and First Direct Premier Visa Card Points Programme are being withdrawn with effect from 1 July 1998,

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Further details will be issued with the next First Direct Visa or Premier Visa statement.





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The West Pier in the 1920s. Lottery grants of El4.2 million will help to recreate the pier's Victorian splendous

Battered pier will rise again with £14m grant

BRIGHTON'S West Pier, left derelict by years of neglect and. battering from the sea, will enter the millennium returned to its former glory.

A grant from the National

Lottery, announced yesterday, will help to rescue Britain's only Grade I listed pier. Over the next three years its owners. the West Pier Trust, will receive a total of £14.2 million towards renovations expected to cost about £34 million. More than £10 million is to be spent on repairs to the structure of the pier, which was built in 1866 at a cost of £27,000, and the remainder on redevelopment of its buildings. The balance will be met by investment from London Regional Properties and the Oliver Peyton group.

The National Lottery has already, in 1996, given £950.000 towards emergency repairs to stop the pier falling. into the sea and a further



The pier as it is now after storms and years of neglect

summer with a view to completion in 2002. However, the trust hopes to make it accessible to the public by 2000.

Oliver Peyton, 35, who owns several restaurants in London, will oversee the running of the pier. He plans two restaurants, two bars, an art gallery, theatre and concert venue, mooring for 60 boats and an outdoor auditorium. He said yesterday. There

are nothing like our piers anywhere else in the world. I'm very proud to be involved with the redevelopment of the pier. Our plan is to create a: unique all-year-round resort and one of the most internationally acclaimed destinations on the English coast."

Built by Eugenius Birch, one of the Victorian era's foremost pier designers, the

pleasure. The town's Palace pier was built later. In its heyday, two million people flocked to Brighton every year to enjoy its renowned healthy bathing until cheap foreign travel diminished its

popularity in 1968 some restoration work was carried out the pier for the filming of Sir Richard Attenborough's musical satire Oh! What a Lovely War, but it was closed to the public in 1975 when it became unsafe. The pier became detached from the shore several years later and the middle section was demolished by the great storm of

Rachel Clark, of the West Pier Trust, said: "We're absolutely delighted to be told we are definitely getting the lot-tery award. It's hugely exciting. It is an enormously expensive scheme and it is public money being spent, so we had to be absolutely sure any plans we came up with were feasible, and commer-

Courtroom show | Christians break

By CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE 1970s drama Crown Court is to be revived in response to Britain's growing interest in televised trials such as that involving Louise Woodward.

As with the original series, members of the public will be picked to make up the jury and will give their unscripted verdict. Actors will take the parts of the defendants, witnesses, barristers and judges. The cases will be fictional, but will be based loosely on actual events in courtrooms around the country.

The Granada series, modelled around Manchester Crown Court, became cult viewing in the 1970s when it was broadcast by ITV in the daytime. It was taken off air in... 1984, but not before it had become a proving ground for

Television executives realised that there was an appetite for televised trials after the O.J. Simpson case. Sky News, broadcast the Woodward trial live, reported that more than six million people tuned in. many staying up into the early hours to follow events. Ratings increased by up to 1,000 per

cent at key moments.

David Liddiment, director of programmes for ITV, said: *Obviously we are not allowed to film in British courtrooms. but there is a lot of interest in this country in high-profile American trials. This is a British courtroom for the Britîsh viewer." The new version, made by

Yorkshire TV, will have a new title, Accused, and be screened for an hour at peak time in the evenings once a week.
It will be part of ITV's £170 million spring and sum-mer schedule which, as well as

a large helping of sport, offers factual programmes such as Chaler Girls, Animal Rescuers and Bosses From Hell that follow in the wake of such BBC successes as Driving School and Animal Hospital.

makes comeback TV commandment

By RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Christian Channel has received its second formal warning in less than two months from the Independent Television Commission for breaching its programme

The commission said yesterday that the satellite channel had committed serious breaches of rules that prohibit on-screen fundraising. Earlier this year the channel received a warning after it televised an

Any further breaches of the code on fundraising are likely to result in a fine. Continued breaches could lead to the channel's licence being shortened or revoked.

The programme was Good Morning Europe, broadcast on weekdays at 10.30am. The commission found that fundraising had featured in October and November last year. "Considerable time was giv-

en within two editions of the programme to publicising a leaflet produced by the Chris-

tian Channel and encouraging viewers to return a coupon from it," a commission spokeswoman said. "The substance of the leaflet aimed to nersuade viewers to send in

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donations." Religious charities are allowed to appeal only for funds for the disadvantaged. Sarah Thane, the commission's director of programmes, said the breach was regarded as "a very serious violation", which had been of direct financial benefit to the

Tony Brill, managing director of the channel, broadcast daily between 4am and Ilam and claiming to reach four million British homes and 18 million across the rest of Europe, said: "The material which has brought about the warning was not thought to contravene the code since it referred to off-the-air correspondence between the channel and some of its regular

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Wildlife at risk from pressure to cut water bills

MINISTERS face a show-down with their nature advisers today over the fate of wildlife areas where damage may be allowed for the sake of cheaper water bills.
English Nature has identi-

fied 79 sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) that are being sucked dry by overabstraction or are being polluted by effluent from treatment works. It says that the water industry has a legal obligation to stop the damage, find alternative water alternative water sources and fund improvements at treatment works to protect the rivers, fenland and wetland areas and their rich range of

However, the sites have become part of the price review by Ian Byatt, the Water Regulator, which will set cus-tomer bills for 2000 to 2005. Environmental improvements are widely believed to be one area where savings can be

Water companies drawing up spending plans have been advised by the Environment Agency that only special-interest sites of European quality need to be seriously considered. Officials admitted yesterday that the guidance had come after pressure from

David Withrington, senior freshwater officer at English Nature, said that meant only about nine of the 79 sites would be saved, with the rest continuing to face harm with no real improvement in customers' bills. English Nature calculates that saving all the sites would cost about £200 million, or just 1 per cent the water companies

Nick Nuttall

reports on a clash between

ministers and

on Drinking Water."

abstraction or sewage effluent

nature advisers on special sites

head today at a conference in London organised by English Nature and the RSPB to be Meacher, the Environment
Minister, Mr Byatt and representatives from consumer and water industry groups.

Mr Withrington said yester-day: "It seems that the choice about which sites should be helped and which ones are less important has been based more on what are seen to be the Government's obligations whereas we believe there is a clear duty under the Water Industry Act 1991 for com-panies to tackle all sites, both SSSIs and those with Euro-

pean listing."
Sites being harmed are said to include the River Axe in Devon, home to the scarce short-leaved water starwort; Swanbourne Lake in Arundel Park, West Sussex, home to breeding and wintering birds; and the River Eye in Leicestershire, one of the last strong-

holds for native crayfish. Sarah Fowler, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said yesterday that improving the standard of watery wildlife sites should be The dispute will come to a a priority, rather than allow-



Leon Valero, 7, helping to launch the government campaign to reduce pollution

Asthmatic boy does his bit to clean up streets

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD asthmatic launched a £2 million government campaign yesterday to cut air pollution and reduce the risk of global

warming. Leon Valero, from Kingsbury, North London, overcoming nerves to pose with John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, said that his iliness was a problem "all year round and that car furnes were the cause.

Leon's family do not have a car and travel by Under-ground whenever they can. His mother, Monica, a nurse, goes to work by Tube. His message was that using buses, trains and bicycles wherever possible, instead of driving everywhere, was an obvious way of reducing exhaust

Leon's appearance at a press conference in London was part of the Government's attempt to persuade people to "do their bit" for the environment by thinking about their lifestyles. He will feature in one of the press advertise-

next two weeks. Mr Prescot encouraged him to shout the slogan "Are you doing your bit?" before promising to show him around the House of Commons.

The Deputy Prime Minister said: "Everyone of us can do a little bit better, use our cars less, switch off the lights. It but, most important of all, it

helps Leon here breathe better ... Climate change and air quality are two of our major concerns." Small children suffered

closeness to traffic fumes. Mr Prescott added."We know that between 12,000 and 24,000 people die from asthma problems, which are made all the more difficult by the gases from cars."

Mr Prescott admitted that

Britain had poor public transwas improved. A White Paper on integrated transport policy will be published this summer with a consultation paper on measures to mee

' Sheriff's men clear tree protesters

By Stephen Farrell

ers began to be evicted from Evciction of the activists, a trees and tunnels along the mixture of residents and veter-thames yesterday as bailiffs and from the Newbury bypass and police cleared a site for developers. The 60 activists were demonstrating against plans to fell 48 poplar trees in public gardens that obstruct river views from 178 new homes at Kingston upon

Thames, southwest London. -At 5.30am, John Hargrove, the Under-Sheriff of Greater London, 120 police and 140security guards hired by Fairclough Homes sealed off the area as 20 sheriff's officers began clearing the protesters from half a dozen treehouses

ENVIRONMENTAL protest- and a 50ft wooden tower. and Manchester airport pro-

> Last night nine people had been arrested for public order offences or for failing to attend court over earlier protests. About 15 remained in the trees and five in two tunnels.

Fairclough and the council said the poplars had existed for 50 of their likely 70-year span and would be replaced by 120 trees of other varieties.

Photograph, page 22





Labour wants mayor to be at Dome's big day

MINISTERS are planning to bring forward elections for the new London authority to ensure that the new mayor is installed before the opening of the Millennium Dome in

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will present to the Commons today a White Paper detailing the wide-rang-ing powers of the proposed Greater London Authority.

The elections are due to take place in May 2000, enabling the 25-strong assembly to begin working before the end of the year. But Downing Street is anxious to bring the date forward to September or October 1999. "The mayor is the most visible symbol of the new vibrant London the Government wants to project," a Whitehall source said last

Ministers feel that the new mayor should be with Tony Blair and Peter Mandelson. the minister in charge of the Dome, and other dignitaries at the opening. "They want the mayor in his or her rightful seat on the platform." the source said. "The eyes of the Ministers hope to bring forward the poll to make the most of millennium

part of that focus." The White Paper on the proposals, which would introduce the American-style big

city mayor to the British political system, will include provision for a deputy to be elected by members of the assembly. The mayor will take over some responsibilities for fares on rail. Tube and bus services. He or she will also have some input into regulation and fur-

Although the authority will not have direct tax-raising powers, the mayor will be able to raise revenue from parking fees and road tolls. The assembly will be able to block the mayor's Budget by a majority of one vote. The mayor will have a orivate staff of about 15. The White Paper is expected to name either the or options for the

celebration, writes Andrew Pierce authority's home. They in-

> foot of The Mall Londoners will be asked whether they want an assembly and a mayor in a referendum on May 7. A clear "yes" vote is expected

clude Admiralty Arch at the

Leading candidates linked to the post of mayor include, for the Tories, Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare and the former transport minister Steven Norris. Lord Archer has a 100-strong team of volunteers ready to campaign for him. Glenda Jackson, the Oscar winning actress turned London MP and Transport Minister, has the discreet backing of Tony Blair. The broadcaster Trevor Phillips is also in the frame, Labour and Tory shortlists are far from closed.

POUNDS.

that their We may not even have heard the name of the first Mayor of London." a govern-

Every month, someone

wins a MILLION

son, the Health Secretary, who is a London MP, but friends say that he is not interested. The prospects of a maverick non-party candidate becoming mayor has all but been ruled out by the new voting system chosen by the Government. The White Paper will reveal that the supplementary vote method will be adopted. It will also include plans for a form of proportional representation, known as the additional member system, to elect the 25 assembly members.

Whoever then commands more than 50 per cent support is the winner. Mr Blair has taken a close interest in the development of the White Paper. If the London experiment is a success he hopes to repeat it in other

The supplementary vote system invites voters to name

a first and second choice. The

two candidates with the most

first-choice votes go into a second round, with the sec-

ond-choice votes of people who backed the other candidates

distributed between them.



French given a revealing lesson in le Blairisme

offer four guidelines — pru-dent discipline over financial TRAVEL is obviously conducive to candour. Just as Margaret Thatcher visited Bruges to give one of her most memorable speeches, so Tony Blair yesterday went to Paris to deliver his most comprebensive statement to date about the meaning of Blairism. The speech is revealing about Franco-British co-operation and the need for a new political vision for - though Mr Blair did not spell out what he meant by a "political framework that is dramatically more relevant, more in touch than the present one". But the most striking section was about the "third way".

Labour policymakers and intellectuals have spent a lot of time trying to define what the term means. It is a frequent topic in the pages of the New Statesman, Prospect and Renewal, and there is even an Internet debate on the topic. Have Bill Clinton and Mr Blair found a new ap-"beyond left and right? This has been the Chequers last November and at the White House seven

weeks ago. Mr Blair admitted yesterday that "to some the new Labour Government in Britain exhibits what they call an ideological confusion. How can you say you are of the left ernment? How can you help the poor but say you are in favour of wealth and an absence of penal taxes on it? How can you introduce greater competition and yet say you are in favour of job security? How are you against too much power being vested in government but in favour of social action?"

The real issue is redefining the role of government —
"how to provide security in a world of change". People know that change cannot be resisted, but neither do they want change to control them. to rule them". Mr Blair delights in his rejection of ideology. While it is all very well to talk about absolute adherence to basic values.

Mr Blair did however

PETER RIDDELL

and monetary policy; a shift in the role of government from regulation to equipping people for economic change by focusing on education, skills, technology, high-quality infrastructure and a welfare state that promotes work and makes it pay; specific measures to tackle social exclusion; and a new emphasis on entrepreneurship, small business taking. Mr Blair defined the third way as "not laissez-faire nor state control and rigidity, but an active government role linked to improving the employability of the workforce". Critics would question the extent of the retreat from regulation in view of Labour's support for the social chapter.
If you look at the Govern-

ment's record since May as opposed to this rhetoric, the third way boils down to government activism on the

RIDDELL

ON POLITICS

cheap, financed by limited redistribution aimed to benefit the working poor. The Government's major new schemes - the New Deal to help people back into work. the childcare package and the working families tax credit are being financed by taxes on privatised utilities, up-market house sales, pension funds and childless married couples. But there is a reluctance to raise tax rates or VAT.

The priority is to find initiatives that do not increase public spending. Instead, the arm of Whitehall is being extended to inspect and check standards in schools and in the NHS. These have been supplemented by high profile projects such as the new summer literacy programme and the new 24-hour health helpline. These are desirable in themselves, but they do not cost much.

Blairism is not anti-government. It still means active government, but with the should be done to alarm the middle dasses.

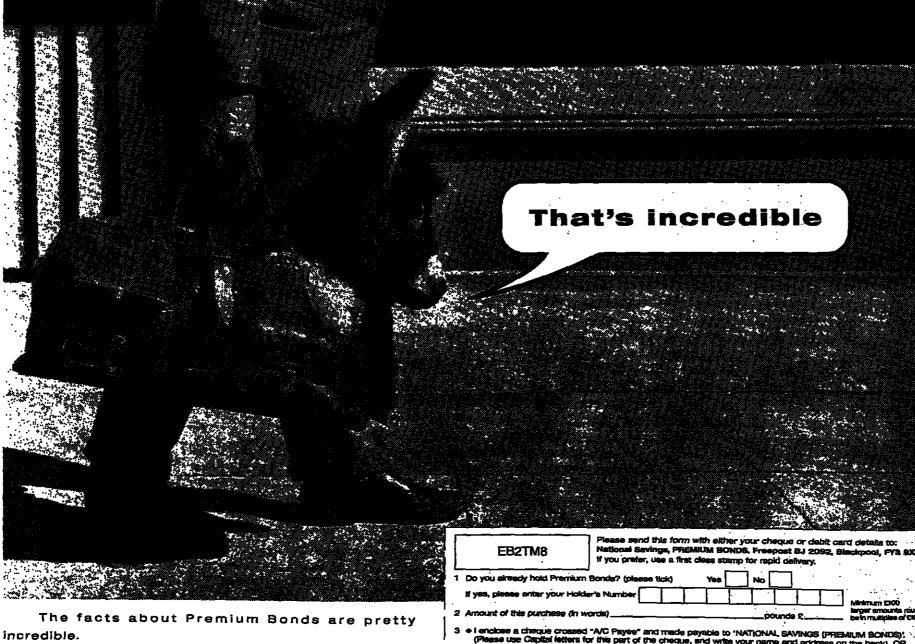
'One pint' limit backed

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

should be cut to the equivalent of about one pint of beer, a House of Lords committee recommends today.

in a report on blood-alcohol levels for drivers, the committee that considers proposals from the European Union supports reducing the British limit from 80 milligrams to 50 milligrams per 100 millilitres of blood. The peers say that the automatic one vear driving ban should remain for anyone over the limit, whatevlevel, but call for a two-tier system with harsher penalties for those found to have a leve

higher than 150mg/100ml. should continue to be set by Brussels: The Government is already considering changes Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, said in February that he was "minded" to reduce the limit to about one



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Chaired by Lynne Truss, Times columnist and
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Triple baby vaccine is safe, experts tell parents

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of children could be maimed or killed if they were not immunised against measles, mumps and rubella, parents were told

yesterday.
Sir Kenneth Calman, the
Chief Medical Officer, said there was absolutely no scientifically sound evidence to show a link between the MMR vaccine and autism, Crohn's disease or ulcerative

He was speaking after a day-long meeting of 37 scientists reviewed a study of 12 cases by doctors at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School in North London which questioned whether there might be a link. The meeting, at the Medical Research Council, studied all the evidence, including the work done at the Royal Free, and concluded that any link was purely coincidental and there was no reason to change government advice that all children should

'It would be dreadful if we were to compromise the health of children on the basis of work which has not been substantiated," Sir Kenneth said. He was deeply concerned at anecdotal evidence that there had been a dip in the number of children being vaccinated since publication of the Royal Free report. "As you reduce the immunisation rate you increase the number of people who are susceptible."

Sir Kenneth rejected the suggestion by Andrew Wake-field, who led the research at the Royal Free, that babies should be given the three vaccines separately. There is no evidence of a relationship

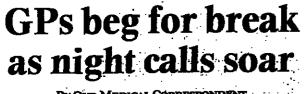
and any of these disorders," he said. "Giving the vaccinations separately would mean three visits and three injections. For a minimum of two years a child would not be immunised against a disease which could kill or main. I am not pre-pared to encourage something which might harm children."

Sir John Pattison, chairman of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee, who chaired the meeting of experts, said he had no doubt that the MMR vaccine was safe. "I would sign up my own children to have it if they were

the right age."
He said there was a need for more research because the howel diseases and autism were such terrible conditions. Autism, which was most feared by parents, happened to develop from the time a child was in its second year, which was when the vaccination was usually given.

"Most children get MMR in the second year of life, so if you select a group of them for any other reason you'll find they all had MMR," he said. "Is it just coincidence or is there more to it? Our feeling is the balance must be against it being anything other than a coincidence."

A statement from the Royal immunisation programme for children, but that there should be more research into the role of the measles virus in bowel diseases. The statement added that the school would continue to study and care for children with "the very rare associ-



BY OUR MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS called on patients vesterday to limit their out-ofhours calls to real emergencies. as a new survey showed the number of night visits by GPs had increased sixfold over the

In one year 30 per cent of patients called their GP out of hours, the poll by MORI for the government-backed Doc-tor Patient Partnership Campaign found. It also showed that the number of out-ofhours calls made to GPs over Bank Holidays was 50 per day. Simon Fradd, chairman of the campaign, made a plea for people to make sure their medicine cabinets were fully stocked before Bank Holidays.

Alan Milburn, the Health Minister, said that the new nurses took the calls and gave advice or decided if a doctor was needed - which has been on trial in three areas for the past fortnight - was already proving highly successful in reducing out-of-hours calls.



Jessica La Rochelle, left, and Jessie Terry, two of the teenagers waiting in the cold

Canadians open season on Prince Will hunting

THE Prince of Wales and his two sons arrived for a skiing holiday in Vancouver early vesterday, with Prince Wil-

liam the undisputed star. The Prince, 15, received a pop idol's welcome from the large crowd, with teenage girls screaming as if the next monarch but one were a member of Oasis. Many had raited for up to six hours in freezing temperatures to catch a glimpse of the shy. self-effacing Prince.

He had travelled by scheduled flight at the start of his Easter holiday from Eton. He met up with his father and brother, who had travelled separately for security reasons in a private jet provided by Galen Weston, the Canadian food millionaire.

As Prince William stepped from a car outside his hotel, teenagers squealed with delight Jessica La Rochelle, 19, who held up a sign proclaim-ing "William, it's me you've been looking for," said the Prince was "the British version of Leonardo DiCaprio. I find his courage very sexy; it's the way he has faced up to



Prince William: facing

things." Tara Woodman, 15, said: "He's drool material; he has his mother's good looks. He is a real person, someone what he has been through."

Yesterday the young Princes visited a space explora-tion exhibition in Vancouver and later joined their father at a reception at a marine environmental centre. Last night they were due to fly by helicopter to the Canadian Rockies for a four-day private photocall promised in the hope that they will then be left in peace.

☐ Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother once remarked that the chopper had changed her life as conclusively as that of Anne Boleyn. Today the two red pot-bellied Wessex helicopters that have been in continuous royal service since 1969 are being retired from duty. Advancing age means that they require more and more expensive

maintenance.
The last royal Wessex flight will take the Duke of Gloucester on an official visit to the Imperial War Muse-um's historic aircraft collection at Duxford, Cambridgeshire. When it returns to its base at RAF Northolt this evening, the Duke will read a farewell message to the crew from the Queen.

From next month the Royal Family will fly to official engagements in a leased Sikorsky S-76, for which no British equivalent is available. The move is expected to save at least £1.8 million a year.

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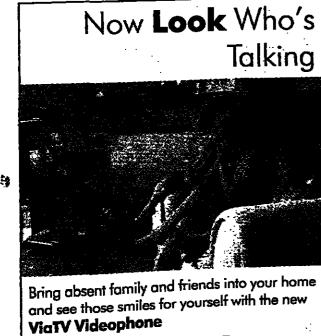
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Camorra preys on trade in exotic animals

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

tus symbols to supplement their gold watches, Mercedes cars and Armani suits: menageries of lions, leopards, pythons and other illegally imported wild animals.

The Mafia craze for minizoos came to light when a lion. named Simba after the character in the Walt Disney film The Lion King, was found in the garden of Raffaele Brancaccio, a boss of the Camorra, the Naples Mafia. who was recently arrested and is in prison awaiting trial. Brancaccio, whose clan nickname is "Bamboo", is known for his penchant for the exotic. Police were nonetheless startled to come across the threeyear-old lion stalking the grounds when they raided his

POLICE cracking down on the Malia in the Naples area yesterday found that crime bosses are acquiring new statured the 352lb lion.

Police said Brancaccio had had Simba since he was a cub. Neighbours had protested, at one stage even calling in the police, but Brancaccio hid the lion and made it the centre of a growing animal collection. "His garden was a real menagerie," a police spokesman said. "Simba was the largest animal, but he also had rare parrots, monkeys, snakes and fighting dogs, including a dozen pit bull terriers."

Another imprisoned Camorra boss. Giacomo Tevola, who lived farther down the coast near Sorrento, kept a large python, and according to local residents "often strolled around the village with the snake round his neck". A week



ago police found a leopard in a cage in the garage of a third well-known gangster. Vin-cenzo Mazzarella, boss of the San Giovanni quarter of Naples. Mazzarella is on the run. but had left the leopard behind to guard his property. It was found "dishevelled and undernourished, altogether a sorry

sight", police said.

The lion, the leopard and the python are now all being cared for at Naples 200. Under

a 1996 law Italians are forbidden to keep animals "which pose a danger to public health or safety", including not only lions and tigers but also lemurs, kangaroos, wolves, bears and pandas. Ciro Toiano, a spokesman for the Italian Animal Protection League, said there was a multimillion-dollar criminal trade in rare and exotic animals". A street market held on

Naples deals openly but ille-gally in exotic birds and animals, Signor Toiano said. This trade is totally in the hands of the Camorra. Owning an exotic animal is not only one of the biggest status symbols in organised crime. it is also a very lucrative activity along with drugs and arms

Thousands of people have Naples and Palermo over the past few days to protest. against both unemployment and the organised crime that feeds on it. Police cracking down on Mafia crime last week broke into rundown council flats in Naples illegally occupied by mafiosi and discovered a secret opulent lifestyle being led behind the dilapidated exteriors, with the modest flats furnished with Persian carpets, paintings and marble Jacuzzis. La Repubblica noted that, despite the determined drive to undermine the Mafia over the past five years, its bosses still wear Versace and Armani suits and Cartier and Rolex watches encrusted with diamonds, and even wear designer tracksuits in prison.

When they go on trial, their wives and girlfriends turn up in court in fur coats, designer sunglasses and heavy gold jewellery." the paper said.

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spired "stability pact" which sets crushing lines for any euro states that stray.

While the technical prepa-

rations are complete, political

compromises must still be

reached on the leadership of

the European Central Bank.

France is still insisting,

against the great majority,

that Jean-Claude Trichet, its

central bank governor, should

take over the euro-bank presi-

dency. Germany and the others: are backing. Win

Duisenberg, the Dutch head of the EML

Rearing a child in US costs \$1.4m

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN EN NEW YORK

RAISING a child from the cradle to university — a period spanning ZI years — costs the average middle-income American family the equivalent of \$1,455.581 (E38,000), according ing to a report published here.

Children born to families defined as higher and lower income cost the equivalent of \$2,783,268 and \$761,871 respectively over the same period.

The study, published yester-day by the US News & World Report magazine, calculates how much parents spend per child every year on items such as housing, food, transport, clothing, healthcare, toys and recreation, day care, schooling and university.

Controversially, the study also includes "foregone wages" as a cost to be taken account of This is calculated as the sum that would have accrued as income had the father or mother not had to take time off from work - or even stop working - to attend to the child at home. Economists describe this category as "opportunity cost". Put simply, people who have children tend to have less time on their hands to make money.

Foregone wages, according to the report, amount to the single highest cost parents face. Middle-income parents are calculated jointly to "lose" \$996,567 over 21 years. Higher-income parents, naturally. lose more - \$1.885,454.

The biggest burden arises out of university fees, which amount on average to a total of \$157,831 for the four-year period American students spend as undergraduates. The next highest cost is housing, totalling \$97,549; expenditure on food amounts to \$54,795 over

the entire child-raising period. Transport, predictably, sets parents back by a large sum (\$46,435), as does healthcare (\$20,757) in this land of pay-to-

be-cured. Mosteye-opening, however, is the \$33,996 spent over 21 years on toys and recreation. This shows perhaps that America's children are having a whale of a time.

Italy in euroland as Brussels prepares to field virtuous first eleven



Duisenberg: tipped as head of central bank

FIVE years of budgetary sweat will pay off for 11 European Union states today when the European Commission declares that they have all met the Maastricht criteria and are fit for entry to

monetary union. The long-awaited verdict on the inhabitants of the future 'euroland" is a special relief for Italy, where the Government of Professor Romano Prodi has pulled out all the stops and defied the doubts of its Northern partners. The Commission's

which embraces all would be euro members except Greece, is virtually certain to be endorsed by EU leaders when

The economic goalposts have been shifted in order to get the desired

result, Charles Bremner writes

entry by the time notes and coins are issued in 2002, while Denmark. Britain and Sweden, although economically qualified, have decided to stay

Sweden's case sets the scene for future trouble for Britain

they meet on May 2-3 under because the Commission is the chairmanship of Tony expected to say the Swedish Blair to fix the final details for crown has not qualified for the currency launch next Jan- membership because it does uary. Greece is aiming to win not belong to the exchangerate mechanism. The Maastricht treaty sets two years' membership of the ERM as an entry condition.

device for granting Stockholm its wish to stay out because, unlike Britain and

Denmark, Sweden was not granted the right to opt out if its economy passed the Maastricht "convergence" tests. Britain maintains that nonmembership of the ERM will be no bar to its future membership because a 1993 re-

vamp made the rule obsolete. For critics of the currency. the presence from the start of Italy, Spain and Portugal, the so-called Club Med states which have shaky fiscal records, adds to the risk of tension inside the new currency zone. The architects of the Maastricht project had envisaged that the currency would start with an inner core of

historically strong currencies

MJN Files

clustered around the German Italy's continuing weak-

ness, symbolised by its steep national debt, is expected to be highlighted in a separate report today from the European Monetary Institute (EMI), the precursor to the future European Central Bank (ECB). The Frankfurt body is likely to sound a diplomatic camion over Italy's ability to sustain its late-

born budgetary virtue. Belgium's national debt, which stands equal to Italy's 120 per cent of gross domestic product, is also likely to be singled out.

However, finance ministers

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Adder too many

Troika of Kremlin insiders plotted the downfall of Yeltsin's Cabinet



Berezovsky: identified

President Yeltsin's shock deci-sion to sack his entire Government was taken after close consultations with a group of shad-owy Kremlin insiders, including his daughter, a billionaire and his ghost

As details of Monday's "bloodless coup" began to surface, it emerged that the Government may have been surprised by its dismissal, but the decision was not simply President Yeltsin acting on invales. An influence of the surprise of the su Yeltsin acting on impulse. An influential cabal played a decisive role in preparing the removal of Viktor Chernomyrdin, the former Prime Minister, and his deputy, Anatoli

According to official sources, analysts and some Russian newspapers, the decision had been carefully planned with the involvement of Tatyana Dyachenko, the President's daughter and confidente. Valentin Yumashev, head of the Kremlin

Richard Beeston reports from Moscow on

a group of advisers, including the President's

daughter, who have Boris Yeltsin's ear

Berezovsky, a business tycoon and

veteran Kremlin intriguer.

Mrs Dyachenko's influence on Kremlin decision-making is hard to underestimate. She entered politics two years ago to help her father's reelection campaign and has become one of his closest aides, particularly during his long spells of illness. During the present political upheaval, a friend described her as being in the thick of it, even though the publicity-shy mother of two has made no public comments.

ist, helped the Russian leader to write his two volumes of memoirs and was promoted to the head of the According to one analyst, he has since become "the son that Yeltsin never had" and has been at the President's side throughout the present crisis.

The third and most controversial player in the troika is Mr Bere-tovsky, a businessman who is estimated to be worth about £2 billion, who is heavily identified with the "crony capitalism" that emerged in Russia after the collapse of

Mr Berezovsky, who controls a large slice of the Russian oil, media and airline industries, has been at odds with Mr Chubais since last summer over a failed privatisation bid for a telecommunications company and a similar dispute with Mr mant that Mr Berezovsky's remarks Chernomyrdin this year over an oil and his return to public life were

Although he disappeared to Switzerland a few weeks ago, suffering from a snowmobile injury, he reemerged recently. In an interview published on Friday he predicted that Mr Chubais had only "days left government", even though the Russian leader had promised to keep Mr Chubais in the Cabinet until 2000. On Sunday, Mr Berezovsky returned and in a television interview spoke of the need for "new faces in the Government" only hours before Mr Yeltsin dropped his bombshell, dismissing 29 ministers.

The daily Moskovsky Komsomolets said: "The next day Yeltsin seemed just a man fulfilling all that Boris Abramovich Berezovsky told him the night before." The headline was: "What sort of devil led Yeltsin astray?"

and his return to public life were simply coincidences and rejected suggestions that he had once again been shaping Kremlin policy.

Despite the denials, few doubt that

Mr Berezovsky was involved in the sackings and is now lobbying furiously to ensure that the next government is stacked in his favour and that the Prime Minister is an ally.

One idea, reported in a newspaper Mr Berezovsky controls, suggested yesterday that he may seek a Cabinet position himself. Officials also said that he was pressing for the appoint-ment of Ivan Rybkin, a former Deputy Prime Minister, whom Mr Berezovsky once served on the Kremlin's Security Council.

Nevertheless, Mr Berezovsky's influence has its limits and destroying the old Government may be easier than forming a new one, particularly when every interest group in Russia is lobbying the Kremlin for its



Dyachenko: difficult to

Most Russian ministers likely to be kept on

A CLEARER picture of the future Russian government was beginning to emerge yesterday after President Yeltsin's dramatic dismissal of his entire administration on Monday, with the indication that most ministers would keep their jobs. But there was still no announcement of a new Prime Minister.

The only certain victims of Mr Yeltsin's cull were Viktor Chernomyrdin, the outgoing Prime Minister, who is to concentrate on political work with his pro-government faction, Our Home Is Russia, and Anatoli Chubais and Anatoli Kulikov, First Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister respectively, both of whom were sacked by separate presi-2 dential decrees.

Under the Constitution, if the Prime Minister is dismissed, the whole government is automatically dismissed along with him, leaving his successor the freedom to pick his Cabinet - in consultation with the President. Thus Mr Yeltsin had no option but to remove the whole Government if he wanted to Mr Chernomyrdin, Speaking

New Cabinet leader has yet to

be chosen, writes

Robin Lodge

in Moscow

yesterday at a meeting in the Kremlin with Sergei Kiri-yenko, the Acting Prime Min-ister, Mr Yeltsin went out of his way to praise two senior Cabinet members, Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister, and Igor Sergeyev, the

Defence Minister. He also had a separate meeting with Nikolai Kovalyov, head of the FSB internal intelligence service, indicating that his job was also sale.

Indeed, all ministers apart from Mr Chernomyrdin, Mr Chubais and General Kulikov have been told to remain at their posts until a new government is formed. Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the presidential

depend on whoever Mr Yeltsin nominates as Prime Minister, and last night there were still no hints from the Kremlin. Mr Kiriyenko, at 35, is considered too young and inexperienced for the job, although he is likely to remain First Deputy. Mr Yeltsin is certain to be assessing the mood of the State Duma, which must endorse his nominee or face dissolution and new elections.

The Duma is vocally extremely hostile to Mr Yeltsin and had organised a day of protest on April 9 to call for the Government's dismissal, before being pre-empted by Monday's events. But with nearly two years of their term still to go, many deputies would be reluctant to risk losing their seats.
This gives Mr Yeltsin much

more room to manoeuvre. In the past, most commentators have ruled out the possibility of one of the radical reformers. such as Mr Chubais, his fellow First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov, or the liberal economist Grigor



Boris Yeltsin addresses his Kremlin staff yesterday. He indicated that he wanted some key Cabinet members to stay in the new government

Prime Minister, because of Duma opposition.

Now, however, none these - with the exception of Mr Chubais, who is out of the running anyway - can be ruled out. Much depends on Mr Yeltsin's motives, whether he is looking for a strong

inevitably be seen as his chosen successor for the presidential election of 2000, or is simply after an amenable, competent administrator who will not oppose him.

If the former is correct, he would incline towards Mr that most of them would be Yavlinsky being appointed high-profile figure, who would Yavlinsky - or a popular known but able candidate Zyuganov, the Communist be firmly ruled out.

figure like Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, who has the additional advantage of being acceptable to most Duma members, although he has powerful opponents elsewhere. But if he takes the second option, he would be

from the regions, such as Yegor Stroyev, the former Communist chairman of the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, or Dmitri Ayatskov, the reformist governor of Saratov, south-

Party leader who was defeated by Mr Yeltsin in the final round of the 1996 election, repeated his demand for a government of national unity that would include members of the Opposition and reflect the views of the Duma. That,

WORLD IN BRIEF

Man 'sent death threats to Gates'

A MAN was accused yesterday of threatening to kill Bill Gates, the American chairman of Microsoft, in an attempt to extort \$5 million (£3.8 million) from the billionaire (Tunku Varadarajan writes). Adam Quinn Pletcher, 22, from Illinois, sent four letters in a month to Mr Gates, threatening to kill him, his wife or Microsoft executives if the sum was not forthcoming, prosecutors said. Mr Pletcher denies the charges, saying that he was "merely playing out an imaginary scenario" when he sent the letters. But prosecutors say they have a signed confession.

RAF rescues ship's crew

Nicusia: An RAF helicopter plucked the crew of eight from the Honduran-registered cargo ship MV Demetrios II when she was stranded off the west coast of Cyprus after being buffeted by storm-force winds and heavy seas, the police said here yesterday. None of the eight — four Greeks, two Syrians and two Pakistanis — was injured. They were taken off in pairs. (AFP)

Contraband snakes seized

Bangkok: Thai authorities seized about 4,000 live snakes that had been packed into 84 air cargo crates to be shipped illegally to China and used for food and medicine. The snakes were rescued while the crates were being loaded. Some Chinese believe that snake blood and other parts will improve their health. Channel up snake violated in alcohol. improve their health. Chopped-up snake pickled in alcohol is a fairly popular home health tonic. (AP)

Nairobi campus closed

Nairobi: Students at Nairobi University headed home vesterday after its closure in response to riots. Some of the worst violence in Kenya for nearly a year, in which two policemen were seriously hurt, presented a public relations headache for President Moi on the day of President Clinton's arrival in neighbouring Uganda. The students object to an easier admissions policy. (Reuters)

Portugal's cardinal dies

Cardinal Antonio Ribeiro, right, Patriarch of Lisbon and known for his efforts to modernise the Catholic Church in Portugal, died after a long banle against cancer. He was 69 and had been in hospital since November. Before his appointment to Lisbon in 1971, Cardinal Ribeiro was a popular public figure because of his weekly religious programmes on television (AP)



Three females too many

Tokyo: The excitement of being put in a cage with three females was apparently too much for Sultan, a 28-year-old male lowland gorilla. The 400lb primate ran round for a male lowland gorilla. The 400lb primate ran round for a male lowland gorilla with his new playmans then few minutes tussling with his new playmans then promptly dropped dead at the zoo in the Japanese city of promptly dropped dead at the zoo in the Japanese city of Kyoto. Keepers believe he had a heart attack. (AP)

West is defied as Serb forces take Kosovo reprisals

IN GLOGIANI

SERBIAN security forces yesterday risked plunging Bel-grade into further conflict with the international community as they responded with heavy firepower to an attack by ethnic Albanians that left one policeman dead.
Interior Ministry sources

said that in the subsequent police reprisal at least four Kosovo Albanians died as troops laid siege to the village of Glogjani, south of Pec. American diplomats said

their contacts in the area reported a wave of refugees fleeing across the nearby border into Albania.

Verifying the extent of the casualties or the size of the exodus was impossible, but with at least one other attack on police yesterday govern-ment officials alleged that the Kosovars were seeking to provoke the security forces on the eve of today's Contact Group meeting on the crisis in the

Yugoslav Federation. Glogjani, a community of about 5,000, was deserted save for livestock yesterday afternoon as shooting was heard in the outskirts of the village. Kosovars from neighbouring Irmic said a compound be-longing to a powerful local family, the Haridinis, was surrounded. They hinted that the family could have links to the Kosovo Liberation Army.
According to the Interior



tial amount of arms and ammunition was captured. The terrorists remain surrounded and fighting is con-

tinuing", they said.
Glogiani and Pec lie about 15 miles east of the Albanian border and are outside the Drenica region, until now the focus of the Serbs' attempts to eradicate the guerrillas. Nev-ertheless, the villages south of Pec have long been a strong-hold of resistance to Belgrade's authority. The Kosovo Information Centre claimed houses in Glogjani were burning.

While the real strength of

the guerrilla army is unknown, the new Serbian Government approved yesterday has a distinctly hardline look, with the ultra-nationalist Vojislav Seselj named as a Deputy Prime Minister.

Seselj in the Government means complete isolation from the world," said Vuk Draskovic, whose Serbian Renewal Movement is in Opposition, "He'll make the problem Ministry sources, "a substan- of Kosovo more difficult."

Milosevic is given Albright warning

Contact Group meeting in Bonn on the crisis in Kosovo. Madeleine Albright, US Secretary of State, warned President Milosevic of Yugoslavia yesterday that he had failed to meet the key demands of the big powers on Kosovo and faced further pressure to end the repression (Richard Owen

Diplomats said that today's meeting, which Ms Albright

will chair, would consider Rome: On the eve of today's whether to tighten sanctions against Belgrade and impose further measures, including the freezing of Serbian assets abroad. Ms Albright met Lamberto Dini, the Italian Foreign Minister, and senior Vatican officials in Rome to discuss the Balkans crisis. She said that President Milosevic still has a long way to go in complying with the Contact



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US welfare cuts fail to push people into jobs

UP TO half those Americans who have been thrown off welfare rolls under tough new laws are failing to get work. according to a flood of studies that reveal the darker side of the revolutionary benefitreforming experiment.

Many families have had welfare cheques cut off years before the deadline because parents are unable or unwilling to turn up at job-search classes, according to three surveys published this week. "My impression is that few-

er people than some expected are landing jobs," says Gary Burtless of the Brookings Institution. The question is, if they don't land jobs, what happens to them?

The first signs of the effects of the 1996 welfare reform laws, the most controversial that President Clinton has signed — they have turned many Democrats against him are emerging as Britain heads down a similar route, inspired, in part, by the American experience.

City mayors and state gov-ernors are ebullient about the reforms, with welfare rolls plummeting and evidence that for a large minority — perhaps a third — the knowledge that benefits will be cut off spurs them into steady work. The booming US economy has generated thousands of minimum-wage jobs. But there are also signs that for up to a half.

BLAIR POLICY

LABOUR'S Welfare to Work programme is the cornerstone of the Government's parliamentary programme and represents the key policy area for the Blair administration. Much of the British programme comes from social and economic experiments plonsered by states stich as Wisconsin. As Frank Field, the Social Security Minister, pre-pages to unveil more details of the Govern-

monthly cheque does not do the trick.

ment's welfare reform Green Paper tomor-

row_ evidence from

America suggests the results of such policies

are, at best, mixed.

survey found that only a third of families who left the rolls between summer 1996 and spring 1997 earned more than \$100 (£60) — the definition of "employment" — in a threemonth period. In total, 480,000 people have left the state's welfare programmes in

the past three years. A federal study this week also showed that the guillotine is falling years earlier than expected. In one three-month period, nearly 40 per cent of those disappearing from rolls

missed appointments with their caseworkers or failed to turn up to work.

In most states, people can receive benefits for five years provided they take part in jobsearch programmes.

A Minnesota study showed that drug use and mental illness often lay behind people's failure to take part in even the minimum job-search programmes.

According to many state

studies, people who have been denied benefits turn to relatives and friends for extra income. If their electricity is cut off, they may then raise extra cash by selling fridges, televisions and cookers. The experiments have not been running long enough to show what happens once the household appliances are gone.

In Wisconsin, a prosperous Midwestern state that has been a flagship for welfare reform, there is more encouraging evidence that people have made the leap into the workforce - but incomes are still very low.

The University of Wiscon-

sin, which has tracked 25,000 single parents who had been on welfare, found that in a 15month period, 18,000 of them had worked at least once, holding 42,000 separate jobs. But only 7 per cent had earnings equivalent to \$20,000 a year, and only 39 per cent were earning \$10,000 a year or more - the minimum wage level. A third had no recorded



Baroness Thatcher cuts a ribbon to open a British trade fair in Ras al-Khaimah in the United Arab Emirates yesterday. "All trade fosters economic relationships, and trade between people raises the standard of living of both peoples," she said

Israelis plan to extend limits of Jerusalem

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

KOFI ANNAN, the UN Secretary-General, arrived in Jerusalem yesterday amid a fresh controversy over Israel's plans for the future of the disputed

Hours before Israel Tele-vision disclosed that Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, and Ehud Olmert. the Mayor of Jerusalem, are preparing a Knesset Bill that would expand the boundaries of the city westward to mark Israel's 50th anniversary, to be celebrated next month.

The report said that the Bill would be presented to the Knesset on independence Day Israel has announced that the anniversary will be marked over two days on April 29 and April 30. Al Gore, the US Vice President, is the only leading foreign states-man who has so far pledged to anend.

The new proposal is understood not to incorporate Jewish settlements on occupied or annexed land to the north, east and south of the city, a move that would have had explosive consequences.

However, Israel Television's Channel 2 reported that it does include a clause that would "bolster ties" between Jerusalem and the strategic West Bank settlements of Maaleh Adumim and Givat Zeev. although it gave no further

The disclosure came on the eve of the arrival of Dennis Ross, the US peace envoy, carrying proposals for an Israeli withdrawal from a further 13 per cent of the occupied West Bank. Israeli ministers say they cannot contemplate handing over more than 9 per cent of the land occupied in

David Bar-Illan, Mr Netanyhau's Communications Director, said that the Jerusalem extension plan was not new and had been considered by the previous Labour

Moshe Leon, the new director-general of Mr Netanyahu's office, later told Israel Army radio that he supported the enlargement of Jerusalem. The settlements that you are talking about are very close geographically to Jerusalem; and there is no reason why economically, they should not ...

belong to Jerusalem," he said Any change in the status of Jerusalem could upset fragile Israeli-Palestinian peace talks which have been in stalemate for over 12 months as a result of Israel starting work building the giant settlement of Har Homa in east Jerusalem. Both Israel and the Palestinians claim east Jerusalem as their

capital. Defying international criticism. Mr Netanyahu assured members of the right-wing National Religious Party that (, building at Har Homa would go ahead.

Before the end of my term in 2000, I promise, there will be buildings at Har Homa," he told the delegation.

Mr Annan implicitly at-tacked Israel for beginning the

project to house 32,000 Jews at Har Homa but adopted a much more low key approach than Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, who came under further bitter attack yesterday from Israeli media commentators, one of whom called him "cocky" and "self-righteous".

Mr Annan said cautiously: "If a peace process is ongoing. there is normally the desire that one does not really take any initiative that complicates the process."

German pledge: Gerhard Schröder, a leading member of the German Social Democratic Party, pledged during a visit to Jerusalem yesterday to foster continued awareness of German responsibility for the Holocaust and to maintain a special relationship with Israel if he is elected Germany's next Chancellor. (Reuters)



Schröder: pledged to keep up good relations

White House attempt to protect Hillary 'ridiculous'

IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY CLINTON'S central role in the defence of her husband was brought into sharp focus yesterday as the White House tried to invoke executive privilege to shield her conversations from prosecutors in the Monica Lewinsky controversy.

Part of President Clinton's request last week to assert privilege on behalf of senior aides is said to have been intended to prevent Kenneth Starr,

the independent prosecutor, from inquiring about discussions between Mrs Clinton and Sidney Blumenthal. a White House spin doctor.

Those familiar with the investigation said that the White House was hoping to rely on two previous rulings to strengthen claims never before tested in court that Mrs Clinton should be protected by the

presidential prerogative. In Uganda, Mr Clinton declined to comment on the matter, instead referring questions to his lawyers in

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for you while you pop down

to the cashpoint?

Washington. But Republican critics clusion of Mrs Clinton. The effort to savaged the notion.

This claim is ridiculous," Bob Barr, a member of the House judiciary committee said. There is simply no other word for it. Despite what she may think, the First Lady is not an elected official or appointed to represent one single American voter and has no basis upon which to claim executive privilege.

The Starr inquiry, frustrated by arguments over executive privilege. be slowed further by the in-

protect her highlights the extent to which she has been leading White House damage-limitation and raises the question of how her quasi-official role sits in America's constitutional

Mrs Clinton has always been a central player in the White House, first during the disastrous management of the President's healthcare initiative in 1993 and later as a sometimes tacit but always influential defender in time of crisis.

President. Best in times of crisis, she appeared on television blaming the controversy on a right-wing conspir-acy masterminded by her husband's detractors

She has been silent since Kathleen Willey, the former Democratic volunteer, described how Mr Clinton allegedly groped her at the door to the Oval Office.

When the Lewinsky affair erupted

eight weeks ago, it was Mrs Clinton who marshalled close liberal asso-

ciates to organise a defence for the

Loggers Expatriate families flee blamed as haze returns

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN JAKARTA

FEARS mounted yesterday of a repetition of last year's crisis when smog smothered South-East Asia as it emerged that Thailand and Malaysia are, like Indonesia, struggling to

contain huge forest fires.

A blanket of smog larger than the United Kingdom, envelops the eastern half of Borneo island. Fires have been also detected in Sumatra. Thailand and the Malaysian

peninsula.
"The situation is definitely getting worse," Hartumt Abberger, a German firemonitoring expert based in the Indonesian province of East Kalimantan in Borneo, said. "Satellite data shows there are almost a thousand fires raging in East Kalimantan

alone but the real figure is

much higher than this as the

satellites cannot see through the haze," he said. Logging companies are being blamed for the crisis. The El Nino weather phenomenon has exacerbated the situation. "But El Niño does not carry matches," Sarwono Kusumaatmadja, Indonesia's for-

mer Environment Minister,

said last month. Hundreds of soldiers and thousands of civilians are fighting the fires across Indonesia but they have been hampered by a lack of water after nine months of practically no rain and little funds since

choking Brunei smog

British expatriate workers in Brunei are being forced to leave their homes and flee the country to escape a suffocating shroud of Indonesian smog that descended over the country last weekend.

So far a handful of families have fled to Bali and many more are considering leaving employed spouses behind so that children can escape the worst of the pollution. Yester-day Dr Haji Johar Dato Haji Noordin, Brunei's Health Minister, became the first minister to be dismissed by the Sultan, and with no official explanation. Newspapers said that the minister had failed to introduce measures to protect people from choking fumes drifting from forest fires now enveloping Borneo.

British citizens in Brunei have reported that much of the smog has been caused by agricultural burning within the country itself and that the scale of the problem is being denied by the Brunei and British authorities. A source living in Brunei with small children who refused to be named described how the constant stench of a bonfire filled their house: We wake up every morning to the smell. Outside it looks like a freezing winter's day with thick fog just hanging in the air. We feel lethargic and sick and many people have bad coughs. They've even closed schools early for the holidays and we just don't know what to do." Over the past five days, the

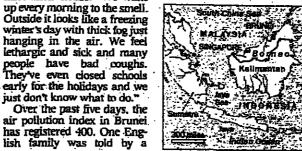
has registered 400. One Eng-

Forest fires and the burning of land for cultivation in Brunei have created a stinking fog leading to lethargy, sickness and bad coughs, writes Victoria Fletcher

Malaysian doctor to evacuate unhealthy to hazardous. Howthe children if levels exceeded 150 API. The source said that the High Commission in Brunei had admitted that it was not warning British families to leave because it feared reprisals from the Sultan, who was anxious to downplay the situation. The source said: "Because there has been such a stark silence from the all sides about the smoke and

what we should do, it has made everyone much more fearful." Americans living in Brunei have been told they may have to leave, and gasmasks are being sent to families remain-

ing there. Since fires swept across Indonesia last year, wiping out an area 10 per cent the size of Britain, the entire region has been suffering from varying degrees of smog. Health warnings have ranged from



ever, in recent weeks a second wave of fires have been started by the vast logging and palm-oil industries which burn land to plant crops. Many areas of the Kalimantan region not destroyed by last year's fires are now burning.
Dr Stephen Howard, the

Senior Forest Officer for the World Wide Fund for Nature, fears that these new fires. combined with El Niño, could become far more serious than last year's. If, as some research suggests, global warming and El Niño are related and the rainy season does not arrive this year, then the longterm problems would be catastrophic.

In Brunei, the drought now gripping the whole region has added to the pressure on the British community to leave.
Although official estimates
suggest that water will be
available for more than six months, many locals fear it will last little more than three. And while residents face water restrictions, the Sultan's polo

fields are under sprinklers. Efforts to monitor the spread of the fires through the launch of a new satellite today were belittled by Dr Howard. who said that the smog was now so thick that satellites could no longer detect the blaze beneath them.

Brazil shunned firefighting aid offers

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

NTERNATIONAL firefighting aid has been offered but repeatedly shunned by Brazilian authorities in the past five months, documents seen by The Times

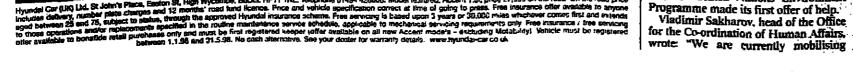
With fires in the heart of the Amazon. causing smogs over Manaus in November, the United Nations Environment Programme made its first offer of help. Vladimir Sakharov, head of the Office for the Co-ordination of Human Affairs,

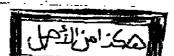
important experience accumulated with regard to Indonesian fires could be usefully applied in Brazil". Further aid offers in December, February and twice in March received no reply.

The offers were addressed to Brazil's Environment Ministry, the permanent mission of Brazil in Geneva and the National Environmental Information Centre in Brazil. Yesterday Mr Sakharov, based in Geneva, said expert assessment and a co-ordination team on the

extensive international assistance to Industrial donesia, which is also facing extremely serious forest fires. It is believed that equipment such as water-hombing equipment such as water-bombing planes — could have been in place in weeks. "We have lost some valuable time

... several months," he said. Sarah Tyack, of Friends of the Earth in London, said. We are appalled that the Brazelian Government appears to have ignored this UN offer of assistance. They must wake up to the fact these fires are causing massive regional and global damage. Forests should have been too wet to ignite, but inroads by loggers had made vegetation dry enough to burn.







Dilmon Hounson in

SLAVE TRADE

IHE exact number of blacks taken from Africa for sale throughout the New World remains in dispute (Tom Rhodes wittes) Estimates range from 10 million to 24 million and an unknown number never survived

the sea veyage.
At the time of the War of Independence in 1775, one in every six. Americans was a slave and by the Civil War in 1881 There were four million slaves in the Uni-ted States. Although the American slave trade began as early as 1619 slaves were not imported in large numbers until the rise of the Southern plantation system in the letter 17th century.

The American trade, The American finds was concentrated on the West Indies where with South America. The overwhelming majority of Africans imported to the New World were sold into boindage. Only about 10 per cent of these ended up in third is now the United States.

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998 Clini Salvs 1 Clinton says needs of Africa ignored in Cold War

FROM DAVID ORR IN MAKONO, UGANDA

BILL CLINTON vesterday came the closest an American President has yet come to apologising to Africa for slav-The United States has not always done the right thing by Africa." he said during a two-day visit to Uganda. European Americans received the fruits of the slave trade, and we were wrong in that."

In recent days his host in Uganda, President Museveni, said that the United States would achieve little by apologising for enslaving millions of Africans during the past cen-tury. He added that the US would do better to increase its trade with Africa and invest

more in the continent. In his only public address during his Uganda visit, Mr Clinton also deplored Ameri-ca's treatment of Africa during the Cold War, saying his country had sacrificed the needs of Africans to US strategic interests.

The biggest mistake the

United States ever made with Africa was neglect and misun-derstanding," President Clin-ton told a gathering of 5,000 adults and children at Kisowera primary school near the capital, Kampala.
The American President

spoke from a podium with a thatched roof and a base covered in bark cloth - a traditional Ugandan material made from tree bark. On it sat his wife, Hillary, and beside them PresidentMuseveni and his wife, Janet.

Mr and Mrs Clinton arrived aboard a US Marines helicopter, touching down behind the school. On the outskirts of Mukono town, it is one of a number to benefit from teacher-training provid-ed by American Peace Corps

Education, the main domestic issue for the Ugandan Government, was the chosen topic of President Clinton's speech. As a result of President Museveni's Universal



Primary Education (UPE) initiative. Uganda's school population doubled last year to 5.3 million students. The charismatic Ugandan leader has promised free education to four children in each family.

President Clinton promised that Kisowera primary school, which has neither electricity nor telephone lines, will soon be connected on the internet with a school in America. He told the children that

they would be provided with

computers that would enable them to communicate with a Maryland.

The pledge to help the run-down school outside Kampala is part of a \$120 million (572 million) initiative to fund education in Africa announced by President Clinton. Having visited some class-

rooms, the Clintons were escorted to a paddock near by where tribal singing and dancing was taking place. "Welcome to Uganda, have a nice time," the pupils sang as Mr Clinton, wearing a dark suit and a straw hat, and Mrs Clinton, clad in green, took their seats.

The couple showed every sign of enjoying the spectacle, though seemed rather bemused by the fervour of some of the lyrics.

"Oh, dear Americans," trilled the children. "we are so hopeful; your presence here to-day in Uganda promotes cooperation. Mishandling funds, misinterpretation. shortage of classrooms and teachers, prevent UPE from flourishing. Provide materials, maintain funds, train more teachers, sensitise Ugandans, unite and work hard. We thank Museveni; we thank Americans. Support UPE!

President Clinton is on the second stage of a six-nation tour of Africa - the first to the

Support the rights of the

continent by an American President since Jimmy Carter visted West Africa 20 years ago. This morning he is due to make a brief stopover in the Rwandan capital. Kigali, to commemorate the victims of the 1994 genocide.

Before the couple leave for South Africa, the President will attend a regional summit for East African leaders in the Ugandan capital.

Leading article, page 19

Fuel crisis threatens Abacha junta

FROM SAM KILEY IN LAGOS

NIGERIA'S largest city was paralysed for he seventh day yesterday, raising ten-sions and sparking violent squabbles between police and army - upon which the country's military leadership relies to stay in power.

Police in Lagos used teargas and fired live rounds into the air to disperse protesting students as tempers over the fuel shortage soared. In signs that the Government's supporters could turn against it, there were clashes between lice and soldiers when they barged to ordinary Ni the front of mile-long queues to fight over

petrol-pump hoses. Yesterday Lagos's military governor put an extra 2,000 police on standby amid fears that the

junta's grip on power was slipping away.
Some motorists spent their third and
fourth days in cars waiting for petrol to
be imported to the world's fifth largest oil producer. For most Nigerians there can be no better illustration of the corruption and inefficiency of General Sani Abacha's Government, which took over in a 1993 coup. While individual ministers, and the President himself, have raked in hundreds of millions of pounds on contracts to import refined oil, and export crude, erians have gained nothing. According to diplomatic and oil indus- opponents.

try sources, only one of Nigeria's five refineries is working, and that at 50 per cent of capacity. Money set aside for refinery maintenance has been siphoned off into the private bank accounts of General Abacha's friends and allies.

Yesterday the general appeared to acknowledge that the crisis threatened Nigeria's stability. He announced that millions of tonnes of fuel was being rushed to the city of eight million people. But he showed no sign of responding to entreaties by the Pope - during a threeday visit that ended on Monday - that he release more than 60 political prisoners. and continued

French envoys are accused

Paris: The French Embassy in Kigali prevented its troops from rescuing threatened Rwandans, a committee of MPs investigating France's possible role in the 1994 Rwandan genocide was told yesterday.

French diplomats were accused by Andrė Guichaoua, a university professor then in Kigali, and Claire Vidal, a social scientist, of turning a blind eye to the killings and culprits. (Reuters)

UN forced out of Kandahar

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

THE United Nations has been forced to close its programme in Afghanistan's Kandahar province because of repeated arracks on its staff and constant harassment by the ruling Taleban Islamic Army.

A UN official in Pakistan said yesterday that the organisation was withdrawing its 14 international workers from the province, which is also the

sion to pull out came after Taleban officials assaulted the UN staff on three occasions and ordered Muslim women workers to be accompanied by a close male relation.

One UN staff member was slapped across the face and another was injured when a Taleban official hit him with a table. In a third incident an Afghan official threw a coffee pot at a UN worker. Last month Taleban expelled two UN Muslim women workers Sarah Russel, for the UN. Mazar-i-Sharif. (AFP)

assaults made it impossible for the UN work to continue. ☐ Kabul: Shia Muslim militiamen fired yesterday on a demonstration against factional fighting in northern Afghanistan. At least ten people were killed, independent sources said. Up to 2,000 protesters had gathered outside a building belonging to

said in Pakistan that the UN

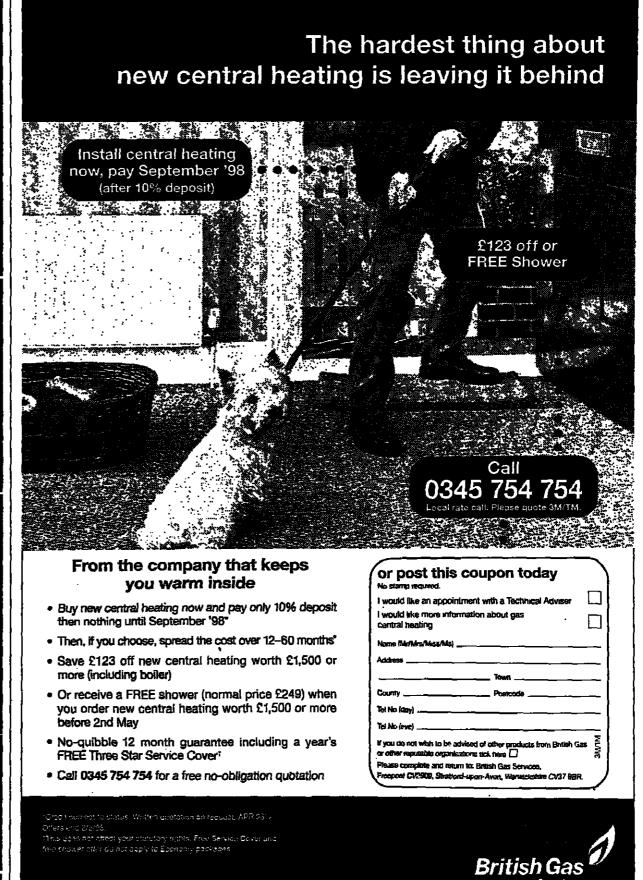
had written several letters of

complaint to the Taleban au-

thorities, but the repeated

e tame Brund





Why football needs women (and women need football)

The resignation of two disgraced football chiefs has revealed that soccer may have at last woken up to the value of female support, says avowed fan Bridget Harrison

f the resignation of the Newcastle United directors, Freddy Shepherd and Douglas Hall, has proved anything, it is that despite football's macho status, it needs women. Of all the scathing and lewd remarks the two men made to an undercover journalist, the line that stuck hardest in the collective throat is not their fondness for extramarital tottle or their contempt for loyal fans, but their dismissal of Newcastle's female popula-

That, in the end, has been their downfall. Not only does the remark insult the city's men by questioning their The joy taste in women, but more significantly of football it offends women. These days women hit me one matter to football because while many have discovday seeing ered the game and England in realised they might actually enjoy it. Euro 96 the game has wo-

ken up to the value of female support. Women now make up one in eight of the spectators watching FA Carling Premiership matches. Women report and commentate on football, and it is not just other women who take their views seriously. The BBC's current drama, Playing the Field, which is about a female football team, attracted more than eight million view-

ers in its first episode. And now that football has reinvented itself as a family game with all-seater stadiums, women have understood that the notion that football gives men an emotional escape valve might apply to them too. As a pick-me-up, a sound thrashing of the opposition is cheaper than therapy and more of a known quantity

than Prozac. The potential delight of football dawned on me one hot afternoon when England were playing Scotland in the group stages of Euro 96. While my girlfriends and I prepared a barbecue, a mob of boys sat in a darkened room, glued to the match.

Enraged by the incessant din of the telly, and the laziness of the men, I decided to wage war. But just as I began my tirade, I caught sight of Gazza storming, ball before him, defenders in pursuit, towards the Scotland goal. As he flipped the ball over a defender with one foot

> the back of the net with the other. I stopped in my tracks. The stadium exploded, the commentator wailed and I felt a surge of patrio-tism. I could barely name half the Eng-land squad, but I

ed them to win. As

Euro 96 unfolded, 1

and whacked it to

found myself unable to resist joining crowds in pubs, singing Football's Com-ing Home while punching the air with each fist and making airplane movements to the tune from The Dam Busters. I then realised that the old cliché about a woman's Saturday night being ruined by Match of the Day does not always

The patriotic fun of supporting England is easy to explain, but for most fans internationals play a small part in footie love. Having a passion for the game is more regularly about dedication to Your Team, as I began to understand when I moved to Shepherds Bush and found myself five paces from the imposing blue walls of Loftus Road stadium, home of



Game for a laugh: Tilly Blyth and Bridget Harrison on their way to QPR. One in eight supporters is now a female

Queens Park Rangers. Still convinced that football was as tedious as the boys I knew who spent hours arguing about team placements and transfer fees, when male friends of-

fered to take the to a complete out of curiousity. QPR were playing West Ham United on April 27, at the end of the Premiership season in 1996. Having no grasp of match scouring the programme for pictures of the best-looking players and, I am

now ashamed to confess, missed the final three goals QPR scored in the Premiership because I was reading about Trevor Sinclair's modelling assignments for Top Man. So furious were my male chaperones that they swore they would never again waste their time taking me to a

I decided that I couldn't care less, until the regular Satur-day match hubbub on Loftus Road began to get under my skin. Each week, normally

empty pubs teem with activity. Hot-dog and hat stalls are set up along the pavements and the police arrive on sleek horses to block the roads. Children decked out in blue and white gather on the stadium steps waiting for player autographs and the entire area

seems to buzz with anticipation. So there is a certain kind of timeless romance in football. And as I watched the crowds of supporters marching intently past my door and listened to their cheers echoing from the stadium. I found myself wondering whether

QPR had scored. You could

guess the game's result by the faces of the departing crowds and i couldn't help feel-ing sad if QPR had lost. I realised I wanted go along with everyone else

for not to see them do it. There is little as taking her exciting as the first glimpse of a footto a game ball pitch, flanked by thousands of fans, all focused

with passionate concentration on the future triumph of their team. Nothing is more uplifting than being swept up in a crowd, desperate for that goal
- and sharing in the noisy elation when it is delivered.

Of course, there are women all over Britain who cottoned on to football long before I did and some, it is true, have decided that they can happily live without the game. But many more have become addicted. I have a girifriend whose passion for Tottenham Hotspur causes her to scream such expletives at matches and in pubs that most male fans pale with embarrassment. Another I know dumped her boyfriend for going to an away match against Manchester United without her. On the BBC's fly-on-the-wall series covering Sunderland's fortunes, a schoolgirl describes how she is affected for weeks

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when her team doesn't perform. Seven of the Liverpool fans who died at Hillsborough

were female. At every match I spot the same girl in the Lower Loft at QPR. She dresses meticulously in black and has a face like a china doll, consistently stony and impassive. During my was dragged there each week by a boyfriend and was hating every minute. Then I caught sight of her once, just as we had scored a goal and saw that she was leaping up and down, grinning with unconstrained pride.

Strangely, men are still fiercely protective of their One girl game. "You're not left her proper fan," they'll complam. When have you boyfriend been to an away match on a freezing January night? I bet you can't exmas tree formation or appreciate the

nuances of

Brooking's post-match analysis ... "Of course, they say that because football was once a place where men could get away from women. where they could relax in the safety of male company and say what they liked. That said, fundamentally women like football for the same reasons as men and whether men like it or not, female interest has had an impact. In the five years that women have started to flood through the turnstiles, football hooliganism has

drupped markedly.

Those like Freddy Shepherd and Douglas Hall, who insist on perpetuating the status of football as a male preserve with a macho heart, have had their day. As the outraged women of Newcastle have proved, the voice of football may still be gruff but the sensibilities of those with shriller shouts cannot be ig-

Marriage is a trade-off

boasting about the pleasures of their otherwise unenvied state, it is their very defensiveness that makes me suspicious. The defiantly single lobby is a case in point. Who couldn't honestly declare that there are advantages to the single state? But once you start denying the disadvantages. seeing all other forms of domestic existence as compromised and generally displaying all the intolerance you airily deplore in others, you have quite frankly, lost it.

I don't condemn such bravado: it is surely desirable for all of us to make the best of what we've got. Thus Margaret Cook, formerly Mrs Robin but newly liberated, now lists the positive elements of her divorced state, citing, among other things, "less shopping, less cooking, less tolerating, less handling of phone calls.

WHENEVER people start we make we don't choose to suffer exactly, but to feel superior in our martyrdom. And, if anything, I think that being married allows one the freedom to escape such self-imposed martyrdom occasionally: being a girlfriend imposes a tremendous obligation to be nice. But even if it is true that marriage does bring with it such constraints, the traffic of advantages can't be all one way. What's in it for us, apart from the heady, if deceptive, satisfactions of being Mrs Nice Guy? What list would a man give in support of the benefits of being divorced? It's too cliched to head this.

list with "the freedom to sleep around; and clearly anyway, men such as Mr Cook found marriage no impediment to this. But what men feel as one disadvantage of married lifeeffort about physical appear-





ing". I think we all recognise the description of marriage in that small summation; and yet, significantly, it can't be a

But it makes me wonder: why, if nearly every woman identifies with the put-upon roll of humourer, smootheroverer and general facilitator (the complaints about the merely practical burdens of domesticity are much less rancorous), do we all adopt this role so often?

No doubt people will accuse one of crimes tantamount to blaming the victims of domestic violence for their bruises, but I can't help feeling we are responsible. If women cared less about being liked, they'd we'd, for goodness sake find it easier to be horrible, to refuse to humour, smooth things over or generally facilitate. That might not aid peaceful cohabitation much, but we

should accept that it's a choice

ance ours. I'm sure the officers at Relate would be whistling through their teeth at such goings on, but it is an undeniable fact that one of the chief pleasures of the married state is that one doesn't have to make an effort when one doesn't feel like it. One of the things I'd find so hard about being single is not having a life which involved lying on the sofa at nights companionably watching television in baggy clothes, thick socks, unbrushed hair and no make-

You could argue that that is exactly what the single life offers: to do what you want, as you like it. But what I want are the benefits of solitude - the lack of effort or eyeliner, the relaxation — only with conattendance, some sympathetic fawning, seems a perfectly reasonable trade-off to me. Don't they say that marriage is all about compromise?

Morality and Lolita

I DON'T believe in banning things: I'd be unhappy to live in a society in which the first instinct was to censor. I don't, therefore, argue that the filmof Lolita should have been refused a certificate. But I am shocked at the speciousness of the argument in its defence. Apparently, the police and some child psychiatrists do not believe that the film could exacerbate paedophile behaviour". First things first why is a child psychiatrist being consulted? It is the paedophile

that is the issue here. I don't say that the film will 'exacerbate" such behaviour, but I worry about the reconciliation of moral with dramatic. extigencies. Artistically, it might make sense to try to show why an adult man feels justified in having sex with a child; but morally it begs all sorts of questions to try to give weight to that self-justifica-tion. Paedophiles do genuine-ly seem to believe that they

are the victims, the child the predator, that they were the seduced, not the seducer. To go along with that, even slightly, in the name of dra-

thing. A book is different this book is different. It still poses difficulties I think, but with a film, without its complexities or brilliance, those difficulties

are insurmountable. Social historians may argue about whether child sex abuse is actually on the increase (many argue that it is just less well concealed) but the rise of the step-family, the exploitative tendencies of a fashion industry searching for young blood (and the willingness of many to collude with this), the erosion of many (albeit hypocritical) certainties have all contributed to create an environment in which perverted behaviour may be concealed or apologised for, no less than it was in more repressive ages. Sometimes revelation, how-

ever shocking, is good, a form of social spring-cleaning, but it can also lend a dangerously deceptive air of normality. I understand, indeed accept, that the unexamined life is not worth living but there are some things that you have to be a Nabokov to get away

Join the PRINGE TOWN

Ego, rugs and retribution

TWO women have won a claim for unfair dismissal, having been sacked for criticising the way their boss had decorated the office, They objected to the dim lighting and Persian rugs, the plants and arrangement of desks. The solicitor whose office it was felt their denigration of her taste to be a slight against everything she stood for. The boss in question was said to be tough, firm and overbearing — the surt of person, in short, who would, you'd think, have little time for office trivialities. But it goes to show that anyone, however confident, is a sensitive flower when it comes to having their taste criticised.



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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998 Fear and loathing in Hollywood

for an Oscar. But otherwise, it is simply terrifying, says Kevin Bacon. Interview by Barry Wigmore

months since he last worked on a film. His most recent job was drawing a cartoon of Sporty Spice for his daughter's birthday cake. Now he has to get his work of art reduced because the New York baker says it is too big to copy in icing on to the cake.

My daughter loves the Spice Girls," says Bacon with a grin, so this is, like, my job. right? My job! So yeah, I want to go back to work. It's difficult, though, because we're a very close-knit family." He scratches his head. "Maybe I'll have to find

another baker." The film credits to Bacon's name are impressive. Since bursting on to the scene as a teen idol in the 1984 hit Footloose, he has played key roles in a string of powerful movies: JFK, A Few Good Men, The River Wild, Apollo 13, and Murder in the First. He made his name specialising in psychotic weirdos twitchy, edgy characters -then showed that he could transform himself with more

Today, as if to perpetuate the "weird" myth, he is dressed in black. A long, lean man, without an ounce of fat, in black jeans and T-shirt and black suede shoes. A black leather jacket is draped across a chair. The only contrasts are white socks, his sandy hair, electrified into a wayward cockscomb, and the piercing. pale blue eyes with which he survevs you.

It is the dress of an American biker. You expect a Harley-Davidson to be propped against the kerb outside with a gang of faithful followers waiting to roar off into the wild night. It is a huge contradiction to the responsible, thoughtful man he is.

Bacon has starred with Hoffman, Kevin Costner. Tom Cruise, Tom Hanks, Meryl Streep and Demi Moore. He has averaged more than two films a year for 20 years. But he is still afraid, he says. Of what? Of just about everything in America's West Coast movieland, it

But most of all, of failure. "LA scares the hell out of me," says the man who has played more than his share of freaky killers.

Moralit

Ha Supp

"On a physical level, I get a tremendous amount of anxiety when I'm there. I always have. "Failure scares me. That fear of not succeeding. He pauses, with a crooked grin. And earthquakes. I was in the last earthquake, out there on a movie set, and then all through the tremors afterwards. That, and a lot of stuff

evin Bacon is full of out there, scares me, yeah, Just too much time spent in cars. too. I really like to walk. In Manhattan I walk 40 or 50 blocks a day. Always walk-

> In the film world there are those who toe the company line and live on the West Coast, and the few - Robert De Niro, Paul Newman, Whoopi Goldberg and Kevin Bacon among them —who live in the east. And so Bacon, 39, sits in the high-rise safety of a Manhattan skyscraper, talking about love and marriage, his wife, kids, dog, farm and horses, about east versus west. And about his work. Has there ever been a more honest. star than this?

"There are actors who put bums on seats," he says. "And I'm not one of those people. I've been in a lot of successful movies, but I can't pull people in. I mean, not with any kind of guarantee." He pauses and thinks a moment. "At least not, you know, this week." He

> There are stars who put bums on seats. I am not one of those'.

thinks again, then tries to explain those fears. "In the course of a career, an actor spends a lot more time being unsuccessful than being successful. Unfortunately, that's

just the way it is. "Los Angeles is a great place to be when your movie is No 1, or you're nominated for an Oscar, or you have just landed the lead in a new Scorsese film. But you feel that way maybe one month in every five

For the rest of the time when I'm there I feel like a loser. I feel like I'm surrounded by reminders that I'm not, you know, at the top. Not at the top, top of the top. These days, away from I.A. I'm confortable accepting that."
One little independent film,

unlikely to change this pattern but certainly worth a visit, is Telling Lies in America, Bacon's latest starring role, which he finished before the extended period of "resting".

Opening in Britain soon, and set in the early days of rock 'n' roll, it is about crooked disc jockeys, the backhanders they demand to plug records. and the payola scandal that

In it Bacon plays another of his quirky characters, an un-

Smile all the way to the dentist.

scrupulous disc jockey with a big red convertible and a foolproof way of taking bribes. These were the days when DJs had an enormous influence on what teenagers thought and bought, and much of the story is based on a personal boyhood experience of the screenwriter Joe Eszterhas. Look, too, for a wonderful character cameo by the veteran Oscar

winner Maximilian Schell. Bacon decided early in his career on the kind of actor he wanted to be. As a teenager he moved to New York to work as a waiter and study acting. He was soon offered a part in National Lampoon's Animal House. It was such a success that it spawned a television series called Delta House, and he was offered a long, fat

contract to join it. At the same time he was offered a ten-word, walk-on part in a theatre workshop play with a two-week run in New York. He called his agent and said he was taking the

ing him. Footloose followed Animal House, and Bacon found he was one of the few to have fought to get his picture off the front cover of the US showbiz magazine People.

"I didn't respect it, you know. And I was not ready to embrace being a pop star, teen idol, sex symbol, because it was somehow undermining

my seriousness," he says.
"Of course now I'd love to be on the cover of People. But they don't want me. So the only time it happened was with Footloose."

is decision to be a serious actor was mits, by ten years of strange movie choices, some of them awful. But during that time he made Lemon Sky, a TV film for America's "arty" channel, PBS. His co-star was Kyra Sedgwick, best known for playing opposite Tom Cruise in Born on the Fourth of July, and John Travolta in Phenom-

Bacon and Sedgwick have been married for ten years and have two children, Travis, 8, and Sosie 5. The family is. Bacon says, "my reason for being". They split their time between Manhattan, the Connecticut farm and Los Angeles. when the work takes them there. Summers are best because all the family travels

"I'm very old-fashioned," he says, carefully choosing his words. I believe you should think long and hard about married. And men wait longer than women because most men are ill-equipped to be married in their early 20s. A lot of men



Portrait of a resting actor. Kevin Bacon, after an enforced period of inactivity, has his hopes riding on a new film, Telling Lies in America

and women marry in their 20s, then ten or 15 years later he's pulling his hair out and thinking I'm missing my life'. They get divorced. He turns around when he's 40 and marries someone in her 20s. I say well, wait, wait till you're 40 and marry someone in her 20s. Women are so much faster to be emotionally ready for commitment. Of course, generalising here," he adds hastily.

As he waits in marital bliss for the right role to come along, Bacon has launched into a musical career with his brother, Michael. The Bacon Brothers have just cut their first album. Called Forosoco, it is a mix of folk, rock, soul and country, mostly written by

You would think his fame would open music industry doors. Not so, he says. "For three years we've played small clubs, 400 seats, 500 seats, and sometimes big venues, open-ing for another band. But we got turned down by major labels all over the place.

"Jon Bon Jovi plays back-up on our record, and he's got a similar experience the other way round. He wants to act but it's tough getting the movie industry to take him seriously. So, Bacon waits for the right film offer to come along, or his record to make it in the charts. And while he waits, the movie star potters around at home. He has put up a cupboard with a wonky bracket, ridden his horses across Connecticut. and walked all over Manhattan -- looking for a baker who can draw a picture of a Spice

Telling Lies in America opens in London and selected cinemas on

ARTS

How the

cultural polyglot Michael Morris is bringing the cream of the Western world's avantgarde to Britain's stages Pages 35-37



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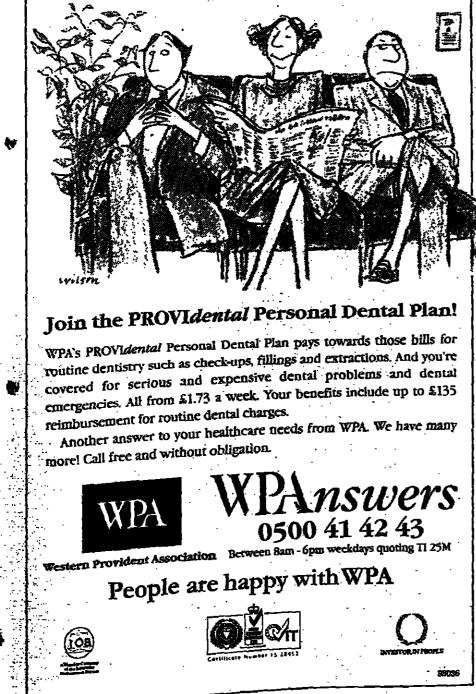
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Just one small snip from me, but one giant snip for mankind

have just washed my hair, and I can do a thing with it. I can populate the stars. All I have to decide is whether this would be a good thing to do with it. If I decide that, then my next move will be to disentangle five hairs from this wet comb, tape them to a piece of paper, and post them, along with 50 dollars, to Mr David Goldstein. He will do

It is a major rest. For Mr Goldstein is a senior banana at Encounter 2001, the Californian consortium which, as you may have read last week, plans to build a spacecraft designed to carry the hairs of four-and-a-half million Earthlings — five hairs from each, at ten bucks a sprout — into the interstellar unimaginableness. How the company arrived at that curiously precise figure of 22.5 million hairs, the report does not tell us — though a shrewd guess might be that the project was costed out at 225 million dollars, that someone at the boardroom table described this as a hair-raising sum, and that a lightbulb then clicked on above Mr Goldstein's own head—but what it does tell us is what Encounter 2001 is hoping on the hairs' behalf: it is hoping not simply that they will fetch up, eventually, against some distant star, but also that this star will be populated by beings so smart as to twig that they could manufacture Earthlings by cloning them from the DNA blueprints in the hair.

Long odds, eh? Even if the spacecraft does bump into something, even if it doesn't explode into a thousand bits upon bumping, even if the bumpee is inhabited by a creature canny enough to come running at the bump. even if the runner does discover, intact, the boxful of hairs, mightn't there still be an outside chance (you should know that we have, so far, already reached odds of approximately a trillion squillion to one) that it will assume the hair to be no more than packing material, and rummage thought-lessly through it in the hope of finding a carriage clock or a personal organiser, or whatever it is that intelligent beings in outer galaxies send off for, allowing 28 days for delivery? It is not, however, these remote100 likelihoods which are currently delaying my envelope to Mr Goldstein. On the contrary, what stays my plucking finger from the comb this morning is the yet remoter one that his crackpot scenario might actually play for real: which is to say that one fine day, however many light years off, the hairs will indeed arrive at the only star in the Milky Way prepared to do more than merely shine and twinkle, where the residents, when of hairs falls out, will cry: "Wow! An Earthling kit!", and immediately rush round to the local cloner's.

ecause that is where my worries really begin. It is all very well for a hair to boldly go where none has gone before. but how bold might it have to be when it gets there? Not only do I not know what shape, literally, I should be in when cloned, a vulnerable baby, a spotty teenager, the middle-aged wreck at the top of this column, nor who my four-and-a-half million new compatriots might turn out to be (can we doubt the presence of the raving mad gene in the DNA of many of those prepared to fork out fifty bucks on this bizarre enterprise?), I know even less about Mr Goldstein's putative Milkians. While he is no doubt praying that his millions of potential subscribers will imagine them to be just as they themselves are - cheery Middle-American humanoids who will, while waiting for the hair to come back from the regenerator, spend their time stocking welcome-wagons, igniting barbecues and getting their bowling-balls down from the - they could just as easily be Brobdingnagian fans of Subbuteo who will expect my hapless clone to spend the rest of his life running about in Crystal Palace strip, or inconceivably repugnant items of some unEarthly sexual orientation who will expect even worse, or, worse even than that, slavering omnivores who have spent their lives wondering whether there was edible life in other galaxies.

So I think, on balance, not I shall take the comb which has lain beside me on the desk as I typed, and tweak its contents into my waste-bin. Hair today and gone tomorrow, perhaps, but at least I know where.



Goodbye Carlton-Browne

have never coveted an ambassadorship. It is one of those jobs, like running an Oxbridge college or chairing an arts charity, in which form outranks substance. I prefer careers the other way round. Diplomacy's defining occasion is a successful dinner, its worst catastrophe an ill-timed truth. Ambassadorship is an advocacy profession. Like the Bar, its practitioners are regarded as most successful when sailing closest to the wind of mendacity. Their motto has to be suppressio veri,

Nonetheless. Monday's news that ministers want to cast their net wider in search of ambassadorial talent must have set even the dullest heart racing. What Walter Mitty has not dreamt of standing, white-suited, on a tropical lawn, sipping a gin and bitter while a band plays Rule, Britannia! and dusky maidens hand him communiqués of peace and war? Who cares about the small talk when it is 80 in the shade, the Rolls is purring at the door and a gong is waiting on ice? Thank you, Robin Cook. A good embassy should round off the banquet of life. It is the brandy and cigars of the modern portfolio career.

There are just two hitches. The first is that the diplomats will have none of it. The department rates second only to the Royal Navy in defending its flagships. It saw off the first great assault on its closed shop, the 1977 think-tank report, and has been dismissing threats and critics ever since - in the nicest possible way. Even the report never dared to suggest open competition for ambassadors. This must explain poor Mr Cook's recent mishaps. He has already been subjected to the well-known Kashmiri water torture, the Baghdad thumbscrew and the dreaded West Bank gaffe. His office will ensure that these horrors continue as long as the ambassadors proposal stays on the table.

More bizarre was the spin given to the suggestion, reportedly from the junior minister, Baroness Symons of Vernham Deane. This was no all-stations call. The minister was specific. She wanted applications from "the world of business or education". The politicians want no more public school and Oxbridge old-school ties. They are the wrong "culture". Downing Street wants black shirts buttoned to the neck and suits hanging loose. This is the diplomacy of Cool Britannia. New Labour. New Tact. The exclusivity of education and

business is a mystery. What about bank

managers, restaurateurs, psychiatrists

Mr Cook's assault on the closed shop of the

Foreign Office may be doomed — but

diplomacy should take the warning seriously

and community carers, not to mention artists, television presenters, even journalists? All have skills relevant to running a modern embassy. We can only assume that this is the rolling out of the pork barrel. We know that education is the "starred" career of the Labour Government, as business was under the Tories. No Foreign Office minister in the Commons went to a public school or to Oxbridge, I assume for the first time in history. Three out of five ministers were lecturers. What could be more natural than that they should offer some plums from the groaning table of state to their own fraternity? As for business, it

has become a talisman for every skill supposedly lacking in the public sector. Whenever a government activity is in trouble, from the Royal Opera to defence procurement, a deus ex machina appears from behind a cloud called "the busi-

ness community". No matter that business is the most tunnel-visioned of activities, and has even less to do with the ethos of public administration than has education. Most ministers know nothing of business except that it makes people rich. Businessmen must therefore be okay.

I imagine the Foreign Office, if forced, will tolerate one token appointee, whose life will be made hell. Whitehall accepts outsiders strictly under contract. They must use the tradesmen's entrance, not touch the female staff and leave when asked. Attempts under the Tories to open senior Civil Service posts to outsiders, again "with business experience", soon faltered. The only Permament Secretary from outside the mandarinate, Michael Bichard, at Education, came from local government via the Benefits Agency. He is still regarded as a man from Mars. When embassies are up for grabs, I doubt if Bernie Ecclestone will be getting Rome, Ross Kemp Canberra, or Liam Gallagher. Ulan Bator. This is no lurch down the American route, just a warning to the Carlton-Brownes that their stuffed shirts are getting up the noses of new Labour.

Diplomacy should take the warning seriously. It is a vocation increasingly without professional substance, which is why its closed shop is so vulnerable. It defines its expertise in archaic aphorisms: "Skill at the art of getting on with foreigners", "poised between the cliché and the indiscretion", "specialists at being generalists". When asked for the qualities of a good diplomat, Harold Nicolson was unable to produce anything more specific than "truth, accuracy, calm, patience, good temper,

modesty and loyalty".
As opposed to all the rest of us?
Today's Foreign Office career still dates from a forgotten age.

Highly qualified staff and their disgruntled.

families must cool

their heels in foreign

below their abilities and waiting always for a better post. Promotion is by age and experience. Status is skewed towards political reporting most of it a waste of the trade promotion, most of it a waste of money. Aid and cultural exchange, increasingly central to foreign relations, still languish below the sait. The essence of ambassadorship is to be a certain sort of person (which could be anyone), not to

possess a certain sort of skill twhich

must be learnt).

The walls of these generalist professions are now crumbling on all sides. You do not need to be a professor to run a university. You do not need to be a director to run a theatre, or a doctor to run a hospital. Solicitors can be advocates. Consultants can run companies. Amateurs can take photographs. Charlatans can write about science. Anyone can preach. In some professions, such as piloting, engineering and surgery, we still demand the security of legal regulation. But the age of the liveried company licence, of the Mason's mark

or the union card, is over. Time was

when you had to be a member of the journalists' union to write on this page. Such closed shops are gone. Britain is the better for it.

I cannot see how ambassadorship is a profession so specific as to require a lifetime's apprenticeship. Other nations have no inhibition in sending writers, scholars, bureaucrats, even politicians to represent them abroad. America may be an extreme case of eccentric recruitment, much-loved of the Foreign Office in reducing this debate to absurdity. But American diplomacy can afford an occasional fiasco in Paris or Dublin in return for access to the White House for a presidential friend.

Rereading the 1977 report, I am astonished how reasonable its conclusions seem and how few have been implemented. The specialism of the Diplomatic Corps, insofar as it has one, is in public administration. The seport advised a fusion of the home and overseas Civil Services, with all civil servants expected to spend some of their careers overseas and senior posts open to the whole of Whitehall. It also advised a reduction in the status and extent of "political" work in an embassy. The Foreign Office today employs the most expensive reporters, press officers and hoteliers in the land.

Diplomacy, as Nicolson implied, is essentially an apartude not a skill, and one that should be cultivated throughout the public service. Almost everyone's career now involves some work abroad, juggling family life, learning languages and "getting on with foreigners". To pretend that only a corps d'élite can handle such a career, and must be protected from competition for embassy jobs by a closed shop, is absurd.

But what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. All professional closed shops deserve scrutiny. Robert Louis Stevenson remarked that politics is the one profession for which no preparation is thought necessary. Just as an embassy is the goal of every diplomat, a generalship that of every soldier and a professorship that of every scholar, so ministerial office is the summit of an MP's career. In Britain alone, Members of Parliament claim exclusive rights to such posts. How would Mr Cook's team feel if; after 17 years in Opposition, they had to bid for their jobs against candidates "from the world of business and education"? We would suddenly hear that ministerial skills are acquired only over a lifetime's experience.

Russian roulette in the Cape

R.W. Johnson says

Mandela and Yeltsin rule over mafia states

s Bill Clinton's presidential progress across Africa carries him to Cape Town today. Russia is in turmoil after Boris Yeltsin dismissed his Government on Monday. The coincidence is a reminder of the time, not so very long ago, when the world watched events in Russia and South Africa with heady excitement. The abolition of apartheid under F.W. de Klerk, and Gorbachev's transformation of the Soviet Union, made it possible to hope that the boldness of the two men's reforming vision would be rewarded with a successful transition to

democracy.

In one sense that hope has been fulfilled — both South Africa and Russia now hold regular multiparty elections — but Gorbachev and de Klerk soon vanished into obscurity. The disintegration of the Soviet Union was followed by vertiginous decline of Russia's economy and the sight of an ailing President presiding over the world's first mafia state.

The question increasingly asked by South Africans is: how far does our country differ from that model? The question is not just rhetorical: the World Economic Forum recently placed South Africa behind only Russia and Colombia in the significance of organised crime within the country.

bia in the significance of organised crime within the country.

The French Africanist Jean-François Bayart recently drew attention to "the criminalisation of the African state"—that is, the penetration of state structures by racketeers. He believes it is not so much a question of the State being overwhelmed by crime, as of greedy politicians and criminals building a symbiotic relationship: smugglers need frontiers, as he puts it, and what better way to launder money than through a central bank?

How far has this process gone in South Africa? The lax state of law and order makes the country a natural for money-laundering and the breakdown of the Customs service has resulted in a flood of smuggled arms and drugs. At the same time, a number of international crime syndicates have set up shop.

There are other signs, too. The recent rash of cash-in-transit robberies, involving more than £12 million, have clearly been carried out by former members of MK, the ANC guerrilla army. Many of the robbers seem to be members of the security forces and there is apparently high-level political involvement, with politicians instructing the police to lose key documents. One former MK soldier, Robert McBride, an official in the Foreign Affairs Department, is in jail in Mozambique facing gun-running

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Meanwhile, an official inquiry has found that the Minister of Housing awarded a large contract to a personal friend. The minister's chief civil servant resigned in disgust, but both President Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki have backed the minister — who remains in office. The Minister of Health similarly broke the rules to hand a large amount to the playwright Bongani Ngema. She, too, remains in office. Currently her sister is also under investigation for the large-scale malversation of funds.

on Mkhwanazi, chairman of the Government's Central Energy Fund, has handed a huge contract to a shady Liberian, Emmanuel Shaw II, who in turn is paying large amounts directly into Mr Mkhwanazi's account. A government inquiry has recommended that Mr Mkhwanazi besacked. But the Minister of Energy and Mr Mbeki have backed him, and he remains in post. It is a matter of public record that the Minister for Public Enterprises accepted a bribe from the hotel magnate, Sol Kerzner, but she, too, has received Mandela's and Mbeki's backing. Corruption is also rife in many

of the provincial governments.

More recently we have seen the Cabinet trying to ram through the quack Aids remedy, Virodene, against the anguished protests of the Medicines Control Council — only for it to be revealed that the ANC had been offered 6 per cent of the shares in Virodene. President Mandela has refused demands for an inquiry. Meanwhile, in Cape Town gangs have captured control of much of the city's municipal housing.

This is an impressive list but it still does not put South Africa in the same league as Russia; indeed, the head of the police force boasts of (small) reductions in a number of types of crime. True, the Government is remarkably open to crooked businessmen of every kind — partly because of the greed of the new elite but also its sheer naivete. Crucially, South Africa did not fragment like the Soviet Union, but has done the opposite, incorporating all the old bantustans.

And the economy has grown steadily. What is striking is the determination of ANC leaders to protect the corrupt in the name of party solidarity. Probably the most dangerous precedent was set by the shooting of several dozen lakatha supporters in the streets of Johannesburg in 1994. The ANC has shielded the killers ever since. The moral was that the ANC was above the law, you could, if the mantle of solidarity was thrown around you, even get away with shooting people dead in broad daylight. After that, nothing that corrupt ministers or MK bandits get up to is surprising. Indeed, Russia and South Africa are in one sense opposites. South Africa suffers from the corruption attendant upon the dominance of a hegemonic party; Russia shows what can happen when not just the economy but the hegemonic party

Cook's fizz

OUR hero hardly smoulders with dark good looks, nor does he quite dance the world stage with masculine assurance. But Dame Barbara Cartland is set to cast Robin Cook in her next book. The Foreign Secretary, philanderer and carrot-top, will certainly recognise himself in the planned work. Once Cook is repackaged as a swashbuckling dandy, the tale promises to contain all the elements of a cracking bodice-ripper, a wife spurned, a heartless Lothario revelling in his new seductive

powers, the secret mistress for whom he would give up everything (even an audience with the Queen). Dame Barbara, who with delicate taste has always avoided writing about such sleaze, has finally decided that the sad web of Robin. Margaret and Gaynor needs to be chronicled.

"The working title is Foreign Affair and I look forward to seeing it on the bestseller list," says Jeremy Robson, the managing director of Robson Books, Cartland's publishers. "This could introduce her to a whole new audience. It's such a classic story, you'll probably find that Barbara's already written it years ago." The novel is expected to combine the historic sweep of earlier Cartland classics such as Metternich, The Passionate Diplomat with the exoticism of Passion in the Sands, a precursor of Cook's recent

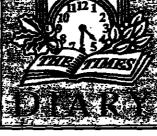
Middle East tour.

Despite the boldness of this



literary departure for Dame Barbara (pictured with Cook), I am relieved that her faith in family values is undiminished. "The scene at the airport was disgrareful." she says of Cook's announcement that his future lay in the arms of Gaynor. "We are being let down. We need gentlemen."

● A PLAN devised by Lord Irvine of Lairg's advisers to make amends with the DIY industry has been abandoned. A visit was suggested to open a new B&O



store in Warrington. Now the Lord Chancellor denies such a plan, but an aide suggests: "It had to be abandoned as he just isn't the sort of man who could carry it off."

Me, Tarzan

AS if he was not rich enough already, Michael Heseltine is to bag £250,000 for his long-awaited autobiography. The battle between six publishers has been won by Hodder & Stoughton. For that sort of money, the former Deputy PM will be expected to report fresh stories about his run-ins with Margaret Thatcher, and even John Major. The title is still being chewed over. "Some people are very keen for it to be called Hezza but we are not sure if Michael is agreeable," says one involved in

the brokering. Publication is set for spring 2000 — a good time to hole William Hague under the waterline, perhaps.

• DAME JUDI DENCH, who perhaps to miss an Oscar because

seemed to miss an Oscar because she was both too talented and too British, is writing a waspish diary of her time in tinseltown. Dame Judi (plctured) has logged every false grin of the past three days, from the pre-ceremony hype to the last dregs of Moët. It has been a heady time for our revered Dame, with acclaim for her performance in Mrs Brown and a spell at the Oscars while her husband Mich-



ael Williams was enjoying a first night in London. Publishers are salivating: "We would be very interested indeed," says Penguin. "Particularly if she tracked back through shooting." And told us what she really thinks about that beastly Helen Hunt.

That's cool

MPs have decided they need an extensive refurbishment programme in the Commons which makes irvine's efforts look like a spot of DIY. E6.5 million has been set aside to install air-conditioning in 16 first-floor committee rooms. The heat can be unbearable," says a clerk to the Commons Accommodation and Works Committee, which approved the expenditure. Plans have just been submitted to Westminster council. The needs of TV must also be met. "They don't like fans whiching during recording. Miniature microphones will be installed."

The work will be installed."

The work will take place during various recesses because it is "fairly expensive and disruptive", but MPs on the committee are suffering from armesia. "I really don't know much about it," says Sir Sydney Chapman, the chairman. That nice Irvine chap would surely take more care measuring his wallpaper.



CELINE DION, whose tinny Titanic theme won an Oscar on the back of the film's success, was not part of the director's original plans. James Cameron was determined to have an instrumental piece, but James Florner, the composer, had other ideas. He secretly hired a lyricist and asked Ms Dion (pictured) to record it, presenting Cameron with a fair accompli. When she saine its everyone burst into tears, sais one excitable type. The result as they say, a melodramatic direction.

JASPER GERARD implodes.

reteran

Sunman

Dites the



THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998

BLAIR IN FRENCH

A call for democracy, diversity and flexibility

In European diplomacy the Prime Minister's "Third Way" turned out to be a mixture of Entente Cordiale and Vive la difference. Tony Blair's speech yesterday to the French National Assembly was carefully crafted to stress the ties across the Channel. not least in defence, while at the same time acknowledging, even celebrating, areas of divergence between Paris and London. The Prime Minister chose to address his audience in their native tongue, exploiting the fluency gained in his youth to emphasise his affection for France. But his choice of language enabled him to do more than just flatter his immediate audience. If German, the language of Clausewitz and the blitzkrieg, is the tongue of the warrior and Italian, from the Renaissance onwards, the language of the opera house, then French is the choice of the diplomat or philosopher the medium of Talleyrand and Voltaire. As such it is the perfect language for Blairism. The French love of the abstract, delight in euphemism and skill in managing ambiguity all make Blairism's points more palatable. Like a Provençal salad, the Prime Minister's words are even more attractive smothered in Gallic.

The meat of the Prime Minister's address certainly needed careful preparation before presentation. Although he paid tribute to his hosts and prayed in aid his own youthful enthusiasm for the European ideal, Mr Blair came not to praise the model of integration which had driven the Continent but, politely, to bury it. In the chamber from which the ubiquitous political labels of Left and Right were first derived, Mr Blair proclaimed a "Third Way" which not only transcended that division but also envisaged a new future for Europe. The vision he outlined was not integrationist on the past model of Monnet or Schuman, although both received their ritual nods, but neither was it intergovernmental in the manner outlined by Margaret Thatcher in her of winning converts.

Bruges speech of 1988. Mr Blair made democracy, diversity and flexibility his rallying cry. While they may prove as capable of subversion and redefinition as the original revolutionary trio of liberté, egalité, fraternité, they definitely mark a different emphasis from that which prevails in continental chancelleries.

But by deploying his delicate abstractions Mr Blair still spoke the language of continental political elites. There is a danger that, without concrete policies to give expression to these ideals, the words may deconstruct under pressure. A French audience, schooled in the critical theory of thinkers such as Saussure and Derrida, will recognise that words can become freefloating signifiers capable of infinite interpretations unless they are strictly anchored to a recognisable reality.

Mr Blair directly arknowledged during his speech that flexibility, for example, was capable of different interpretations in different tongues. In European negotiations flexibility has been interpreted by past British Governments to mean each nation progressing at its own speed but none deliberately excluded; other nations have taken it to mean the exclusion of those nations, usually Britain, whose veto could sometimes impede progress. In economic terms the French fear that flexibility is a code word for Anglo-Saxon turbo-capitalism at its most heartless. Mr Blair was determined to impress upon his audience that flexibility was their friend, the only intelligent re-

sponse to fickle global markets. Previous British politicians have tried to educate the French in the virtues of flexibility but their tone has grated on a nation which still enjoys higher GDP and prides itself on intellectual independence. Mr Blair, by recognising French achievement and also couching his message in appropriately philosophic tones, may have a better chance

CLINTON IN AFRICA A better tour than it looks

> Yours faithfully. J. F. Q. SWITZER, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge CB2 3HU.

Bill Clinton's six-nation, 12-day tour of Africa invites scepticism. The speed at which the President will carve through the continent, the 600-person entourage with him and the set of problems that he has left behind in Washington all suggest that this is primarily a public relations exercise. It has echoes of Richard Nixon's speciacular trip between Cairo and Alexandria in 1974, after which his spokesman offered the optimistic That message will not pass unnoticed. assessment that so many cheering Egyp-The President is also selling something tians could not be wrong. It would be the triumph of innocence to imagine that the White House will not attempt to extract some direct benefits from Mr Clinton's travels. Equally,

parts of Africa that will also occur. The continent has been the forgotten casualty of the collapse of the Cold War system. In the 1970s, as part of their worldwide struggle, both the United States and Soviet Union sought to exercise influence across Africa. Every regional conflict produced a superpower alignment. As this contest primarily required external support for regimes, however unsavoury they might be. African governments had little reason to reorder their economies and every incentive to engage in corruption. The collapse of the Soviet Union simply offered the United

it would be the triumph of cynicism to

underestimate the potential advantages to

States the opportunity to disengage itself. This tour will do much to redress that balance. With the exception of his brief stop in Rwanda, the countries chosen for the President's cavalcade have had to satisfy at least one of two conditions. They are either relatively well-established democracies, by African standards, such as Botswana and Senegal, or they are relatively recent

democracies that have made substantial economic progress after decades of decline, for example Ghana and Uganda. South Africa is a special case of a market democracy all of its own. Mr Clinton has excluded certain large nations (Nigeria and Sudan) and notable economies (Kenya and Zimbabwe) because of their failure to make real progress towards political pluralism.

stronger than symbolism. In recent weeks, the Africa Growth and Opportunity Bill has been making its way through Congress. It was backed by the House of Representatives earlier this month and should clear the Senate soon. This legislation will offer dutyfree access to the enormous American market to those countries that adopt economic reform and enlarge electoral democracy. It is this prospect that provides substance to the "trade not aid" slogan. It will be the centrepiece of the summit that the President will attend today.

This will not in itself alter Africa's future. There are several nations - Burundi, Liberia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone - that remain in a desperate condition. Africa is increasingly dividing into two camps, one of them is determined to deal with the developed world while the other is slipping towards Fourth World status. There is little that Mr Clinton can do about that. The President can help to promote those countries that have undertaken essential change and introduce them to an invariably ignorant American corporate sector. This will provide powerful leadership through example. Whatever else Mr Clinton's tour might be, it is not a waste of his time.

DRIFTING TO DEATH

A fishing ban that is long overdue

death". Set at, or near, the surface of the sea, they are intended to mesh tuna, swordfish and salmon. But their indiscriminate trapping of larger species is ruinous. Dolphins, whales, sharks and porpoises are profligately entangled and drowned.

On a small scale driftnets, made traditionally of hemp or cotton, have been used for centuries in coastal waters. But with the manufacture of cheaper synthetic materials, this mode of fishing was transformed. By the 1980s nets of up to 50km in length were being deployed. So extensive were their depredations of marine wildlife that in 1989 a UN resolution was passed to ban them. The worst offenders - Japan, Taiwan and South Korea - agreed to phase them out.

The European Community also responded, setting a maximum length of 2.5 km for driftnets. For many fisheries this proved uneconomic. They had to close, or adapt their vessels. But some infringed restrictions. Only under pressure of a US embargo did the Italian Government initiate a decommissioning of driftnetters. The French, Irish and British too still deploy driftnets. Dolphins, wreckfish and blue shark struggle and die. Those winched up alive are often damaged. Dolphin beaks are broken; porpoise flukes are lacerated.

An EU proposal to outlaw driftnets has been on the books since 1994. Now, with British presidency of the Union, Elliot Morley, the Fisheries Minister, has declared

Modern driftnets are known as "walls of it a priority to push through a total ban. Yesterday, at the Fish Council in Brussels, he spoke of offering compensation to the small Cornish fleet which would be affected. He is widely backed by other ministers, not least by Loyola de Palacio of Spain. In 1990 the Spanish converted their entire trawling fleet to the "rod and pole" system. Baiting the water with small fry, they use powerful aqueous jets to create a blinding turbulence, before hooking individual tuna up on lines. This method is not only environmentally sound, but it provides better quality fish. A driftnetted animal may have been dead in the water for more than ten hours before it is landed. The Spanish have offered not only to help British fishermen to adapt to their system, but also - despite festering hostilities over quotas - to guarantee them friendly passage into Spanish ports.

If all goes according to plan, driftnets will have been banned by the year 2,000. But Ireland, France and Italy are still opposed. They are pressing for more time. While driffnetting continues the marine environment is under severe threat. The striped dolphin population is depleted by 2 per cent every year. Some 83,000 blue sharks are thought to have been destroyed in one season. Britain must stand hard by its proposals. When a final decision is announced, probably in June, it should be a stringent one. The end for a sector of the fishing industry is a severe outcome. But it is not as drastic as the depletion of the seas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

to Ireland talks

From Mr J. F. Q. Switzer

Sir. As Sinn Fein returns to the allparty talks its reiterated demand for powerful all-Ireland bodies . . . operating independently" (report, March

23) should be seen in a new context.

The British citizens of Northern Ireland have for many years felt aban-doned by their Government, being told that it regarded its role as merely that of an umpire, with no selfish strategic or economic interest" in their future. In January the Government changed all that by ratifying the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (signed in 1995), so bringing its provisions into force in the United Kingdom on May !.

The Convention, the first legally binding European agreement in this field, sets out the principles to be respected and the obligations which flow from them for the effective protection of national minorities "within the rule of law, respecting the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of states" (my italies). Throughout, the emphasis is on the rights of persons Within the member states, and while the Convention refers to "measures to ensure trans-frontier co-operation* (Article 18), there is no mention anywhere of cross-border bodies with executive functions.

The Governments of the Republic of Ireland and of the United Kingdom are signatories to the Convention. They are also both committed by the 1993 Downing Street Declaration

to promote co-operation at all levels on the basis of the ... international agreements to which they have jointly committed themselves, and the guarantees which each Government has given and now reaffirms, in-cluding Northern Ireland's statutory con-

As partners in the European Union the two Governments are now in a position, for the first time, jointly to promote a settlement applying the terms of the Convention which will. without prejudice to the constitutional and territorial integrity" of the United Kingdom, ensure the effective protection of the Irish nationalist minority living in Northern Ireland.

March 23.

Legal aid fees From Mr Leslie M. Oliver

Sir, Mr Michael Harman (letter, March 12) wonders what happens to the 10 per cent of legal aid which is not

taken up by lawyers' fees. In the course of defending a case, lawyers frequently have to instruct experts and obtain reports from them. Those experts have to be paid. Less frequently, defendant's solicitors (us-

ually via the Legal Aid Fund) are ex-

pected to pay fees which they would

not normally be expected to pay. In a recent case in which we have been acting for one defendant, but in which there are two other defendants. the judge adjourned for pre-sentence reports, asking also for a psychologist's report on each defendant.

The probation officer in court asked the judge if he could order that the costs of those reports be met by defence solicitors, in effect out of legal aid funds rather than out of Probation Service funds. The judge so ordered.

Yours faithfully. L. M. OLIVER. Leslie Oliver & Co (solicitors), Shaftesbury House, 49-51 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, W5 5SA.

From Mr Jeffrey Gordon

Sir, In my view, both your leading article of March 5, "Irvine's law", and Mr Michael Harman are wrong in suggesting that 90 per cent of legal aid

is "swallowed up by lawyers' fees". Most lawyers' fees are subject to VAT at 17.5 per cent, effectively reducing the percentage of take by 15 per cent. In addition, there is the recovery of costs in personal injury and matrimonial property claims, costs that would have been awarded to successful defendants, disbursements paid to doctors, and court fees paid to the Government.

In real terms, I doubt whether more than half legal aid goes to lawyers.

Yours faithfully, JEFFREY GORDON, Jeffrey Gordon & Co (solicitors). l Lavender Sweep, SWII IDY.

Taking a bow

From Mr G. M. Beresford Hartwell Sir, It may well be a la mode for some

to deride those who choose to show courtesy, whether it be to the Sovereign or their fellow citizens. There is no rule that an individual.

tennis player or not, should curtsy or bow on the tennis court or anywhere else. It is a matter of politeness. I cannot accept Mr R. V. Kentsley's suggestion (letter, March 21; see also letter, March 12) that politeness is somehow degrading.

Yours faithfully. GEOFFREY HARTWELL, 40 Brambledown Road. Wallington, Surrey SM6 0TF. March 21.

Business letters, page 27

Sinn Fein's return Trials of trying to marry in church

From the Reverend Canon John V. Roberts

Sir, I could not agree more with the comments of Mr Michael Rose (letter. March 18) about the difficulties he and his family have experienced with the Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury in trying to obtain a li-cence for his daughter (temporarily working and living in Italy) to be mar-

ried in a Church of England church. I too, as an incumbent, have on several occasions had difficulties with the Faculty Office in obtaining a special ficence to permit a marriage, of which I was fully supportive, to take place in our church here. I have been made to feel that my judgment in these matters is of little importance.

Such attitudes as Mr Rose describes are indeed off-putting and seem to me to be contrary to the Gospel we are advocating. Isn't it about time that the Archbishop's Registrar brought him-self and his colleagues at the Faculty Office into the 20th century and recognised that their narrow interpretation of the law is actually hindering Gospel ministry?

I do believe that they want to help and to do what is right, but I'm afraid it seems that they imagine people are still living in an age of social immobility and full local employment.

Yours faithfully, JOHN ROBERTS, The Rectory, 67 Church Road, Woolton, Liverpool L25 6DA.

From Mr David de Gale

Sir, Mr Rose's daughter and son-inlaw belong to a growing tribe of aston-ished, if not bewildered, Christians turned away on their wedding day from the Church of England's door.

My son was offered a choice between the Guards Chapel (by the wedding date he was a retired short-service officer) and a church he did not know north of Hyde Park (where he had a pied-d-terre); his fiancée was offered "her" Anglican parish church in southwest London (she is a Catholic): both wished to be married in Kent, where each had longstanding but non-parish connections.

The wise vicar of the Kent parish prepared them conscientiously and conducted the full marriage service except that they signed the Service Register rather than the Marriage Register (which had been denied them by the Archbishop). They had been compelled to endure an ungodly, heartless register office marriage in London the

previous day.

The "Archbishop's assistant Bishop", with whom I corresponded pa-tiently and at length, also pleaded the lack of longstanding personal connec-tion with the parish chosen. Charity and longstanding membership of the Church of England is immaterial?

Yours sincerely, DAVID de GALE, Dernford Barn, Sweffling, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 2BQ. March 18.

From the Reverend Mrs Patricia Newland

Sir, When conducting a Church of England marriage, a minister has a number of conflicting responsibilities. These are, first, to ensure that the marriage is legally sound; secondly, to support the institution of marriage wherever it has taken place; and, thirdly, to proclaim the Gospel of repentance and forgiveness and therefore the possibility of starting again.

The position would be greatly sim-plified, and in my view helped, if the first of these responsibilities were removed. If the Church gave up its legal role, issues of residence, the calling of banns, special licences, and the need to make judgments about previous marriages, if there are any, would be removed. Instead all couples would have to be married by a civil registrar before coming to church.

A service of marriage blessing would then be available to all who really want it, and the Church could concentrate on offering pastoral care and support and preaching the Gospel. This new service would include appropriate vows of commitment, and it would remove a very great source of disappointment and conflict at the parish level.

It would also enable the Church to welcome all newly married couples making a genuine commitment to each other and to bless their future life

Yours faithfully, PATRICIA NEWLAND, Ickleton Lodge, 14 Frogge Street, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 ISH. March 19.

Defence decisions

Forced marriage From Mr David Ould

Sir, Forced marriage, a traditional custom in West Africa, is as you report making a comeback in the Caucasus "Villagers battle for right to steal brides", March 19). In both regions girls or young women are kidnapped by their future husbands, his friends or relatives.

While in Africa the practice is cultural, based on the exchange of women between groups in a community, in the Caucasus it appears to be economic, with suitors unable to pay a

Whether the reasons are cultural or economic, they nevertheless remain a violation of the rights of women who are given as objects without their

Yours faithfully, DAVID OULD (Deputy Director). Anti-Slavery International, Thomas Clarkson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, SW9 9TL. March 19.

From Sir Derek Day

Sir, In his report today on the planned Forces shake-up, your Defence Correspondent states that "in 1982 . . . the Foreign Office insisted, against MoD advice, that HMS Endurance be withdrawn from the South Atlantic". On the contrary, the Secretary of

State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Carrington, wrote on several occasions to the Defence Secretary, John Nott, opposing the MoD decision to withdraw Endurance, arguing that this would send the wrong signal to Buenos Aires.

If the Argentine decision to invade the Falklands was triggered by this decision, which is debatable, the fault lies elsewhere than at the door of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Yours faithfully. DEREK DAY (Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1982), Etchinghill. Goudhurst, Kent TN17 LIP. March 23.

Wallpaper photos

From the Editor of Woman's Journal Sir, May I comment on your report today (later editions), headed "Prying eye in Irvine's home".

At no point, either before or on my arrival at the fundraising reception for Womankind Worldwide which I attended in the Lord Chancellor's newly refurbished apartments on March 19, was there any indication that photography was not allowed. I photographed the flock wallpaper in

the antercom in full view of staff. After I had refused the demand by the press officer from Womankind to hand over my film and camera, and the police had barred my exit from the building, Lord Irvine's personal assistant intervened and apologised pro-fusely to me. When I told her that I would hand over my film to her with the greatest pleasure, as she was so gracious, but that I objected to the anger and rudeness to which I had been subjected, she said that it was not necessary for me to do so and that she trusted me not to use the film.

When I volunteered to write on a piece of paper that I had no intention of using it, she said that that too would not be necessary. But I insisted.

MARCELLE D'ARGY SMITH, Editor, Woman's Journal. IPC Magazines Ltd. King's Reach Tower, Stamford Steet, SEI 9LS. March 20.

Phone code changes

From Mr Mark Mathiason

Sir. You reported today another change to the telephone codes, to take place in April 2000, in six areas of Britain. Unlike previous changes, we are told (later editions only) that 'there can be no guarantee" against further changes after that.

Yet again the real issue is avoided. We do not have a consistent telephone code structure. In many areas the area code is four digits, in other areas it is five digits, and the proposed 020 code for London reintroduces three digits.

You report a spokesman as saying that "most people do not want to change their number unless there is a compelling reason". That may be true. but since I am now facing a third change in approximately ten years, I would have been happy to make one radical change if it avoided two subsequent changes.

Instead of doing too little, too late, why do we not think further ahead and make a significant change which

will endure for longer than that proposed?

Yours faithfully, MARK MATHIASON, M. A. Mathiason & Co (Information technology consultants), 25 Kingshill Drive. Harrow, Middlesex HA3 8TD. March 20.

From Mr Adrian Fisher

Sir, I would like to propose the following new Heritage telephone exchanges: 0-1066 for Hastings, 0-1805 for Portsmouth and 0-1940 for Biggin

Yours sincerely ADRIAN FISHER, Victoria Lodge, 5 Victoria Grove, Portsmouth, Hampshire POS INE. adrian@mazemaker.com

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046, e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Alarm over forest fires in Brazil

From Professor Philip Stott

Sir. We must be very cautious before applying the much misused phrase "environmental catastrophe" to the Amazon vegetation fires, as Major Edilson Oliveira has done in Brazil (report, March 24), and which has also been used in the past to describe fires in Indonesia (World in brief,

same day). Fire has always been, and always will be, an integral part of tropical environments, including the tropical rainforests, under which lie layers of ash giving witness to many former fires, great and small. The savanna grasslands burn annually or biennially, and must do so for their proper management. In both formations large fires have always been associat-

ed with drier years.

Although regretting deeply any human costs resulting from some of the present fires, we must not automatically equate these problems with wholesale ecological collapse. Tropi-cal ecosystems change and adapt constantly to fire, and fire is normal. Simply representing them as yet another gut-worrying world environmental disaster is little more than "green"

overreaction and hype. Yours faithfully, PHILIP STOTT (Professor of Biogeography, University of London), 24 Clarence Place, Windmill Hill. Gravesend, Kent DA12 ILD. 101555_2432@compuserve.com March 24.

From the Director of

Forests Forever Campaign Sir, May I take issue with the assertion (leading article, March 19) that the timber industry is in part responsible for the environmental disaster in the Brazilian rainforest, as logging companies "pave the way for ... subsistence farmers who follow behind them to slash and burn". The

timber industry deplores this process. The Brazilian logging industry can only operate under licence to Ibama (the Brazilian governmental environment agency), which approves a forest management plan for the logging con-cession to minimise damage to the surrounding forest, and agrees the number of individual tree species to be extracted annually. Where selective felling is carried out in accordance with the regulations, widespread

damage to the forest can be avoided. The granting of forest concession permits decreased by 70 per cent in 1997 in the area of forest which can be logged, and the number of permit applications has decreased. Annual permits granted for logging mahogany in 1997, one of the principal tropical hardwood species exported by Brazil, were 90 per cent fewer than in 1996, and the number of companies approved by Ibama to log mahogany had decreased from 90 to 18.

In 1994, 218,000 cubic metres of timber was imported from Brazil by the UK, of which only 41,000 cubic metres was tropical hardwood lumber. Most of the rest consisted of softwood plywood from plantations in the south of the country.

The UK timber trade appreciates that there are concerns about the legality of tropical timber from Brazil and is working on a pilot log-tracking project for Brazilian mahogany in association with the Brazilian Government to complement Ibama's existing

inspection procedures. There is no question that the fires in the Amazon, and also in Indonesia. are an environmental disaster, but to blame the timber industry indiscriminately only damages the environment further in the long term by encouraging people to turn to alternative materials - plastic and metal - which can have a far more negative environmental impact during their life-cycle.

PAUL C. MARTIN, Director, Forests Forever Campaign, Timber Trade Federation. 4th Floor, Clareville House, 26-27 Oxendon Street, SWIY 4EL.

Victorian conditions

From Mr John McNicholas

Sir, It is good to read that at last all schools are to have indoor lavatories (report, March 20). But I notice in another report, in my edition, that the Government does not propose to ignore every Victorian practice: Margaret Hodge, MP, wants teachers to be paid by results. Again!

Perhaps this will spread to the NHS. I like the idea of doctors being paid if we recover.

Yours sincerely, JOHN McNICHOLAS (President, National Association of Head Teachers, 1993-94), 4l Eppleworth Road, Cottingham. East Riding of Yorkshire HU16 5YF.

From Miss Tamsin Seymour

Sir. Who would not applaud David Blunkett's promise of cash to eliminate schools' outside lavatories?

I spent my own recent schooldays in a Victorian building with exterior "facilities". I vividly remember the discomfort, the cold, the damp, the mould growing up the walls - and the toilets weren't a great deal better.

Yours faithfully TAMSIN SEYMOUR. 99 Station Road, Liss. Hampshire GU33 7AQ. seymourliss@clara.net March 20.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 24: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning departed Jamaica for St

His Royal Highness, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees, The Duke of Edin-burgh's Award International Association, later undertook the

ollowing engagements. The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon attended a Rotary Club Lunch at the Indies Restaurant.

Castries, St Lucia.
His Royal Highness later attended a Meeting of the Award Council, followed by a Reception at Government House for Young People who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards departed St Lucia for

Trindad and Tobago.
His Royal Highness this evening attended a Reception, fol-lowed by a Meeting of The President's Award Executive Council, at the President's House,

The Duke of Edinburgh later attended The President's Award Dinner at the Hilton Hotel, Port of

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 24: The Princess Royal today visited Derbyshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr John Bather). Her Royal Highness, President, this morning visited the Save the Children Fund shop. 20 Bank

Street, Matlock The Princess Royal, President. British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, afterwards visited John Smedley Limited, Lez Mills,

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited S. and A. Foods Limited, Sir Francis Ley Industrial Park. Shaftesbury Street South,

The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, later visited HM Prison Sudbury, Ashbourne. Her Royal Highness this evening attended the Association for Prevention of Addiction relaunch

at J P Morgan, John Carpenter Street, London EC4. The Princess Royal, President of wards attended a Dinner at Commercial Union, St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3.

ST JAMES'S PALACE March 24: The Prince of Wales this morning visited St Vincent's Hospital Langara, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and met staff

His Royal Highness afterwards amended a Concert at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver. awarded certificates to prize win-ning schools which had taken part in a national anti-racism campaign and attended a Reception for

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited Burnaby South Secondary School and the Provincial School for the Deaf. Vancou-ver, met students and staff and attended a presentation of the school's "Champions in Learning"

His Royal Highness later attended a Reception at Canada Place, Vancouver, to celebrate a further stage in the creation of the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy project, and alterwards toured the site of the project by helicopter.

ST JAMES'S PALACE ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 24: The Duke of Kent,
President, this morning visited the
Stroke Association's Day Centre
for Younger People, Fairwater,
and the Information Service, Merchyr Road, Cardiff, and was received by Her Majesty's LordLieutenant of South Glamorgan
(Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards
RNR).

His Royal Highness, President, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, this afternoon visited the Penarth Lifeboat Station. The Duke of Kent later visited

the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.
His Royal Highness afterwards visited the Aberthaw Power

KENSINGTON PALACE March 24: The Duchess of Gloucester this evening attended a Reception at St James's Palace given by the Children's Society.

Royal engagements

The Duke of York as Commodore, will attend a dinner given by the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, at 7.45. The Princess Royal, as President of

the British Olympic Association, will attend a National Olympic Committee meeting at The Committee meeting at The Queen's Club, Palliser Road, London W14, at 10.45; will attend the British Quality Foundation Joint Award Winners Conference at the Brewery Conference Centre. London EC1, at 9.00.

The Duke of Kent, as Honorary Liveryman of the Ciothworkers' Company, will attend a charities luncheon, at Clothworkers' Hall, Mincing Lane, London, EC3, at 12.30; and as Chairman of Trustees, the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference (United Kingdom Fund), will attend the annual trustees meeting, at Whitehead Mann Group, Hill Street, London WI, at 9.30.

Reception

Royal Over-Seas League Mr Robert Newell, Director-General, welcomed new members and was the speaker at a reception held last night at Over-Seas House.

Luncheons

The Middle East Association The President of the Board of Trade was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual luncheon of The Middle East Association held yesterday at the Café Royal. Mr Donald Maclauchian, chairman of the executive committee, presided and Sir James Craig, president, also spoke. Ambassadors and representatives of the countries of the region, members of the association and their guests present

First Day Cover Club Mr Mike Collier, Chief Coast-guard of the Scilly Isles, was the guest speaker at a function of the

First Day Cover Club held yes-terday at Trinity House, to mark the publication of the special set of Post Office stamps issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the lighting of the first Eddystone lighthouse. Mr Keith McDowall presided. Among those

McLowkii presided. Among mose present were: Lord Campbell of Croy, Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fyde, Lord Greenway, Lord Mason of Barnsley, Sir Robin Janvin, Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, Mr Colin Cook. Mr Peter Bottomiey, MP, Mr Robin Corbett, MP, Mr Christopher Gill, MP, Mr Andrew Love, MP, Mr Philip Woolas, MP, Captaln Richard Channon, RN, Mr Anthony Mayer and Mr Michael Robson.

The Windsor Castle Nine with the medals they received from the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday. From left Christopher Watson, Giles Downes, George Clough, Jonathan Joy, Clare Venables, Simon Jones, Alan Frost, Philip Rowley and Jonathan Wright

The Queen honours Windsor Castle restorers

Sir David Fraser, Sir Hardy Amies, Major-General Sir Christopher Airey, Mr Julian and Lady Caroline Faber. Mrs. Robert Ward, Mr Andrew Pluck, Mrs. Mary-Arm. Parzwacini, Miss Philippa Helmann, Mr Jaco Helmann, Mr Hose Heimann, Mr Hose Heimann, Mr Shop Helmann, Mr Shop Helmann, Mr Robert Shaho, Mr Charlie Heimann, Mrs. McGengina Way, Mr and Mrs. Humphrey Swire, Mr Nicholas Gowing, Mrs. Vincent Parawacini, Mrs. Christopher Minde, Mr Michael Mander.
Colonel David Laurie, Mr James Rolls, Major-General R Whitworth, Major and Mrs. Ronnie Taylor, Mr and Mrs. Alfred Shaughnessy, Mrs. Betty Renward, Mr and Mrs. John Mrs. Alfred Shaughnessy, Mrs. Betty Renward, Mr and Mrs. Glüchrist, Mr Michael Grazebrook, Mr and Mrs. Simon Parter Bowies, Mr David Faber, Mr Guy Monson, Nigadjer and Mrs. Andrew Parker. Bowies, Captain Christopher Kevilibavies, Mr James Faber, Mr and Mrs. Charles Parawacini, Mr Campbell Relmann.

Mr. Simon Albertini, Mr. Roblet Interde Mr. Michael Springer.

Charies Paravacini, Mr Campbell Helmann.
Mr Simon Albertini, Mr Robie Uniache, Mr Michael Springman, Mrs Robert Hollond, Mr Anthony Gilbey, Brigadier and Mrs Andrew Mayes, Mrs Nicholas Pease, Major and Mrs Martin Agnew, Mr Ciliford Henderson, Mr Richard Surtes, Mrs Brenda Bonham-Carter, Mr Anthony Stanbury, Mr Richard Gayner, Mr Christopher Gibbs, Mr Bill Bagnall, Mrs Lorna Vestey, Mr and Mrs Richard Duriacher, Mr James Allan, Mr James Wright, Colonel and Mrs Jeremy Smith-Bingham.
Mr R Lush Greprisenting the chairman, Buck's Club, Mr John

chairman, Buck's Club, Mr John Inge and Mr Patrick Ramsay (Knight Frank), Captain Feter Murison, RN (Secretary, Buck's Club), Mr Christopher Mann and Mr Ria Chappie (College of Arms Trust and the Police Convalescence and Rehabilitation Trust) and many other friends and former colleagues.

John Drinkwater, noet and drama

rist, London, 1937: Faisal bin Abdul Aziz, King of Saudi Arabia 1964-75. assassinated, Riyadh,

Today is Lady Day which, until 1752, was the legal beginning of the

Hamlet, starring and directed by Laurence Olivier, became the first British film to win an Oscar, 1949.

The Treaty of Rome was signed,

bringing into being the European Economic Community, 1957.

By Alan Hamilton

THE QUEEN yesterday honoured eight men and a woman who had played key roles in the £37 million restoration of Windsor Castle after the 1992 fire that destroyed some of the castle's historic apartments.

All nine, who figured in the New Year's Honours List, were at a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday to receive medals in the various

Birthdays today

Sir Brian Bailey, former chairman.

Health Education Authority, 75; Sir Frank Barlow, former manag-

ing director, Pearson, 68; Major Sir Shane Biewin, Royal Equerry,

63: Mr Humphrey Burton, writer and broadcaster, 67: Sir Kenneth Carlisle, MP, 57; Mr John Coles,

FBA, archaeologist, 68; Mr Ste-phen Dorrell, Shadow Secretary for Education and Employment.

46: Professor Mary Douglas, FBA, anthropologist, 77: Professor Sir Raymond Firth, FBA, anthropolo-gist, 97: Mr Ronnie Flanagan,

gist, 97; Mr Rottue Franagari, Chief Constable, RUC, 49; Profes-sor Sir Patrick Forrest, surgeon, 75; Mr Robert Fox, theatrical pro-ducer, 40; Miss Aretha Franklin,

singer, 50; Mr John Gau, television

producer, 58: Sir Peter Gibbings, former chairman, Anglia Tele-vision Group, 69: Mr John Giffard, Chief Constable, Stafford-

shire, 46; General Sir James

Glover, 69; Mr Benjamin Hanbury, racehorse trainer, 52; Mr David

Hicks, interior designer and au-

thor, 69; Sir Elton John, singer, 51; Mr G.R. John, former chairman,

Dairy Crest, 64; the Most Rev Alwyn Rice Jones, Archbishop of

director, St. Sir Bernard Miller, former chairman, John Lewis Partnership, 94; Mr Leif Mills, trade unionist, 62; Mr Richard

O'Brien, actor and writer, 56; Lord Quinton, FBA, 73; Miss Dorothy

Squires, singer, 83; the Earl of Stradbroke, 61; Mr William Tay-

lar, Commissioner, City of London

Police, 51: Lord Walker of Worces-

ter, 66; Mr Michael Whitiam.

director-general, British Red Cross Society, 51; Mr Keith Whitson,

chief executive, Midland Bank, 55.

Mr Tony Bambridge

A memorial service to celebrate the

tife and work of Anthony M. (Torry) Bambridge, managing editor of The Sunday Times, will be held on Tuesday. April 21, at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street,

London EC4, at noon.

Wales, 64; Mr Barry Kyle, the

categories of the Royal Victorian Order, which is in the personal gift of the Sovereign and is not chosen by Downing Street.

Those honoured yesterday were among 1,500 architects, contractors and craftsmen invited to a party in the restored apartments last November to celebrate the completion of the work in time for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's golden wedding anniver-Edinburgh's golden wedding anniver-sary. The Queen told them then that added something to the very long

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major Timothy Tulnell was

held yesterday at the Guards Chapel. The Rev Leslie Bryan, Chaplain to the Household Di-vision, officiated. Mr Christopher

Tufnell read the lesson and Sir

Henry Wilmot read from a selec-

tion of poems and writings. Mr

Derek Paravacini, godson, accompanied one of the hymns and Mr Robert Ward paid tribute. During the service music was played by the band of the Coldstream Guards under Major

DJ. Marshall. Among others

Mark Tutnell and other members of the family.

Earl Alexander of Tunis, Nina Viscountess Bearsted, Viscountess Montgomery of Alamein, Lord Andrew Hay Lond Patrick Beresford, the Right Rev Ambrose Weekes.

Lord Colgrain, Baroness Sharples, Lord Carrington, KG. CH, Lord Westbury (Order of St John and SSAFA Forces Heiph, Lady Renwick, Lord and Lady Holderness, Sir Michael Pailiser, Lady Rosemary Mulr, the Hon Mrs Diana Heimann, the Hon Lady de Zultueta, the Hon

Muir, the Flon Mrs Diana Heimann, the Hon Lady de Zultueta, the Hon Joseph and Mrs Corbett.
Sylvia Lady Wilkinson, Sir Ashley and Lady Martha Ponsonby, Lady Bowman. Mr Michael Faber, Mrs David Terry, Sir Nigel and Lady Seely, Sir Dermot de Trafford, Field Marshal Sir Roland Gjobs, General

BIRTHS: King Henry II, reigned 1154-89, Le Mans, France, 1133;

Josephiro Murat, soldier, King of Naples, self-styled Josephiro Na-

poleon, La Bastide-Fortuviere. 1767; Arturo Toscanini, conductor,

Parma, Italy, 1867; Bela Bartok,

composer, Nagyszent Miklos, Hungary, 1881.

DEATHS: Nicholas Hawksmoor,

architect, London, 1736; Frédéric Mistral, poet, Nobel Jaureate 1904,

Maillane, France, 1914; Claude Debussy, composer, Paris, 1918;

Memorial service

their work was "a wonderful wedding anniversary present." Giles Downes, the architect who

designed one of the outstanding features of the reconstruction, the new oak hammerbeam roof for St George's Hall, was appointed a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO). "She said today how much people

seemed to be enjoying the results of

School news

Spring 1998

been awarded:

Dinners

Merchant Taylors' School

been awanteed

114

Ben Craig Radiest Preparatory School:
Nishan De Silva, Reddiford School:
Nishan De Silva, Reddiford School:
Rajiv Gangadia, Radiest Preparatory
School: Daniel Sewison, St. Helen's
College: Insper Mogg, Reddiford
School: Seeign Salgado, Reddiford
School: George Tsangardes, Bucking
ham College Preparatory School.

Martin's.
Sir James Jeans: David Garvey, St.
Martin's.
Sir Gilbert Murray: Nilesh Patel,

Technology Lord Butterworth, President of the

Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and

dinner discussion held last night at

the Royal Society. Dr Tom Inch. Professor Dr H König and Profes-

sor Sir Gareth Roberts, FRS, were

the speakers. Among those present

Werte:
The Eart of Limerick, Barouess Blatch, Lord Butterfield, Lady Butterworth, Lord Flowers, FRS, Lady Hassel, Baroness Plant of Writile, Lord Quifs, Lord Renwick, the Hon Tam Dalyell, MF, Sir Geofftey Allen, FRS, Sir Austin Bide, Professor Dame Barbara Clayton, Sir Robin Ibbs, Sir Hugh-Laddie, Sir John Masson, Sir Colin Spedding, Sir Cyril Taylor, Dr Michael Clark, MP, Mr Richard Brown, Mr Stephen J Cox, Mr Vitos Hards, Professor Brian Heap, FRS, Mr Rob Margetts and Mr Mardir Woods. United & Ceril Club

United & Ceril Club Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, was the host at a dinner of the United & Cecil

Club held last night at the House of Commons. Sir Marcus Fox, chair-man, presided, Mr Andrew MacKay. MP, and Mr Stephen Moss, also spoke.

progress of history," Mr Downes said. Others honoured yesterday includ-ed Simon Jones and Christopher Watson from the site management firm; Alan Watson, the architect responsible for the restoration work; Philip Rowley, the site contract manager, the plasteres Clare Venables and Jonathan Joy; the foreman decorator George Clough in charge of gilding work; and the joinery supervi-

Church news

Appointments

sor Jonathan Wright.

New Architeacon of Swindon Canon Alan Hawker, Team Rector, Southgate St Mary, and Rural Dean of East Grinstead (Chich-ester) in he Archdeacon of Swin-don (Bristol).

Retirements and retignation The Rev Dr John Marvell, Priestin-Charge, Stisted w Bradwell-junta-Coggeshall and Pattiswick (Chelmsford), to retire October 31.

The Right Rev Kenneth Oram, Assistant Bishop (Lichfield), re-tired December 31, 1997. Canon David Parker, Executive Officer, Diocesan Board Church and Society (Manchester), to retire May 31. Prehendary Christopher Pidsley,

Sir Gilbert Murray: Müsch Pazel, Northwood Prep. Mortey: Stuart Golodetz, Thorpe-House.
Andrew: David Gail, Orley Farm.
Misor Scholarships
Malyn: David Coghill, Edge Grove.
Peter Bargham. Northwood Prep. Rory Gollad. Northwood Prep. Roy. Gollad. Northwood Prep. Mural Kothart, Orley Parm.; Daniel The.
Northwood Prep. Northwood Prep. Mural March Scholarships Vicar, Chudleigh (Exeter), to retire October 31. Prep. James Keilas, Coteford.
James Keilas, Coteford.
The school has charity status and exists for the education of children.
Registered Charity No 1063740. The Rev John Read, NSM, Tarnworth (Lichfield), retired December 31, 1997.

The Rev Derek Rostron, Vicar, Andlem, and Rural Dean of Nantwich (Chester), retired as Rural Dean on December 31, 1997. Daresbury (Chester), to retire October 31.

The Rev Robert Torrens, Chap-lain, St Peter's Hospice (Bristol) retired February 28. Canon Cameron Walker, Chaplain, Ghent St John's (Belgium, Europe) to retire April 30. Prebendary Arthur Williams, Vicar, Codsall (Lichfield) to retire

April 30. The Rev Christine Withers, Priestin-Charge, Standon and Cotes Heath (Lichfield) to retire April 30. Other appointments

The Worshipful Timothy Briden to be Diocesan Chancellor (Truro). Air Commodore Ben Laite to be Diocesan Secretary (Tristo). Mr Alwyn Pereira, formerly Youth Worker (Portsmouth): to be Parish Worker responsible for youth work, West Kensington St Simon (London).

Forthcoming marriages (

Mr R.R. Barrow and Miss G.T. Sanders The engagement is amounced between Richard, son of Mr John Barrow, of Farmington, and Mrs. Joan Barrow, of Courteenhall, and Georgina, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Andrew Sanders. of

Mr C.E. Elwell and Schorita M. Mendez-Brandon The engagement is announced between Charles Edward, elder son of Mr Charles Elwell and the late Mrs Elwell, of Bonrells Close. Challout St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Milagros, only daughter of Señor de Mendez-Brandon and the late Señora de Mendez-Brandon, of 13 Ca. Villalar, Madrid

Mr A.R. Farafield The engagement is amounced between Andrew, son of Captain and Mrs R.H. Farnfield, of Forest Row, Susser, and Tracey, daughter of Mr and Mrs B.J. Freeman, of Perth, Australia. and Miss T.A. Preeman Mr I.A.E. Foord

and Miss K.L. McDowell The engagement is announced between Jamie, son of the late Mr Jimmy Foord and of Mrs Foord, of Lynchmere, West Sussex, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs John McDowell, of Burnham Market, Nortolk.

Captain J.A.J. Morris, RM, and Miss J.L. Brown The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr

and Mrs John Morris, of Warwick, and Justine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Douglas Brown, of Hampton, Mr C.N. Southorn

and Miss I.T. Gib The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Antony Southorn, of Coichester, Essex, and Ingrid, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Gibson, of Exeter, Devon.

Marriage Mr W.D.H. Bond

wir W.D.FI. BORG and Miss C.P. Hill The marriage took place on Sal-inday, March 21, 1998, at The Temple Church, London, between Mr William Bond and Miss Carolyn Hill. The Master of the Temple, Canon Joseph Robinson, officiated and Canon Eric James gave the address.

The bride, who was given in

marriage by her father, Mr Michael Hill, QC, was attended by Miss Penelope (Nelly) Hill, Miss Kirsty Bercher and William and Thomas Vaughan-Edwards. Mr Justinian Clifford-Bowles was best

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The honeymoon is being spent

Latest wills

estate valued at £2.570.294 net. Peter George Coles, of Milton, Portsmouth, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,104,608 net. John Vincent Armstrong, of Corfe Castle, Wareham, Dorset, left estate valued at £1,342,465 net. David John Milner, of Bredon, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £1,956,391 net. Anne Dorothea Hiatt Hewer, of Clifton, Bristol, left estate valued at EI,279,463 net.

She left E10,000 to Bristol Community Dance Centre, and E5,000 to the Ftiends of Bristol Art Gallery and to the National Art Collections Fund; E3,000 to the Scottish Ballet.

Joseph Constantine, of London W8, left estate valued at £2,771.318 Phyllis Everest Spencer, London SW3, left estate valued at

She left £500 to the National Trust.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982.

£1.839,738 net.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

Anniversaries today

year.

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman under the law, to buy freedom for those who were under the law, in order that we might arrain the status of some Galatians 4:

BIRTHS

ANGRELL - On March 20th at the Hospital, a son, John Adem, throther for Lydin. Proud parents Bosemary (née Smith) and Graham. Smith) and Graham. MARHOU - On Morch 20th at The Portland Hospital to Maria and Theodors, a son, Gragorios, a brother to

CLANCE - On 18th March to Melises (née Hoey) and Matthew, a wonderful daughter, Sophia Atalanta EMERICOL-On March 1st at

EMERGOR- On March 1st at Ladlow Maternity Hospital, to Swamms (note Wadeson) and Glies, a drughter, Namaha Julia, a knyaly siste for Poppy and Posya-HADDOCK - On 17th March 1998 to Halen (note Shrimpton) and James, a son William. HELEY-On 14th March to

PRIET - CR. 14th March 10
Comilla (née Weatherby)
guid William, a son, Harry, a
hrother for Texa.
14415129-WANNETS - Ch
March 24th 1998 to Marjon
and Hans, a daughter,
Sandules Anne Louise, a
sister for Jeroen.
14451478 - Ch. 20th Marsh to AVENDER - On 20th March to Leisa (nde Tucker) and Guy, a see, Jack William. A first grandchild for Danny and

emedie.

McALISTER - On 7th, March
1998, to Samh (note
Holland) and Riall, a lovely
little girl, Katherine Beatrix
Honor (to be known as
Kiry), a sinter for Enfos. Miny), a gates for annu-tice-MUHH - On March 12th at The John Radeliffe Hospita Oxford, to Alteon (afe SheZiar) and Kierra, a daughter, Rachel Maeve, a gister for Martha. gister for Martini, ys_maid - (in 20th March at Schiling Royal Indiamary to Carolyn (see Dick) and James, a son, Matthew Patrick James, a brother for

BIRTHS WALLER - On 5th March to Jane (née Weich) and David, twins, Phoebs and Maximilien Taxx Douglass. To our deep sad NARD - On March 6th 1998 t Lucilia (née Roberts) and John, a son, Wilfrid George John, a beother for Martin

MHEADON - On Sunday 22nd March 1998 at Guy's Hospital, to Esta (nés Howlist) and Tom, a som, George Mark Tyrail, a brother for Fred and Henry.

MR.SON - On 23rd March 1996 at The Royal Free Hospital, Hampsteed, to Ruth Hatapeteed, to Aucu Guilding and Andrew (AN), a

DEATHS

grandmother to right. Service at St. Amdrew's Church, Sedbergh on Priday 27th March 1998 at 12 noon fol-lowed by interment as St. lowed by interment at St Antrew's Churchyard, Der Flowers or donations if desired to Magnillan Num desired to Macraillan Nurse c/o J J Martin Funeral Direc-tors Sedbergh, Tel; 01639 625334.

BASETT - On March 20th, peacefully in hospital after a short Biness. Harding Bevan Bessett O. Ha. Dear husband of Andrey and loving father of Libby and Halen. Franchi swrite at St. Margaret's Church, Ghom, Solibmil, on Mondrey March 20th at 1.45 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers maly, donations if desired to Macanillan Cancer, Rollief of Thomas Rance &

BOLD - Alem, Norman, Hold. Poet, Cittle, Astist. Ross. Bidinburgh 1943 - died 19th March 1976 after a long illness bravely borne, A belowed und faithful husband of Allox, A loying and devoted father to Valenting. The funeral was universe.

11.30 mm.

UHBORFY - On March 21.st, in Comwall, Frederick Horace Chidgey, FRECE, in his 91 st year. Belowed husband of the into Elleen, and dear father of Jill and Anne, Grandfather of Hichael and Pensabupe. Cremation at Pensabupe. Trum. Hondry, 30th March, at 11.40 am. Desations to RELL c/o Ken Revecuabe's Pensabl House, St Amstell.

Sleep tight, Pa. CHILDS - On March 24th

Januss - On March 24th punctually at the home of her soil in Surnham-on-Sea, Somesset. Telips aged 75 years. Formedy of Wednesse Much loved mother of Paul, David and Fatrick. A dear gammutother and great-gammutother. A laquism Masse will be held at the grandmother. A Requires flass will be baid at the Causel of Occ Lady and the English Martyrs, Suminamon-See on Printsy April 3rd at 12.15 p.m. followed by private creaming. Remity flowers only please, donations if desired for the Name A or The Product

CLAYHULSHENDERSON - Ax peace now, Derid lawing died at Farabase Hospital, Dundes on Tasaday lianch. 24th 1998. Very much loved and sadly missed by his children Deborah, Joanna, Edward, Citve, Dinah, children Dabuma, Joanna, Edward, Olive, Dinah, Christopher and his 15 genetichten, Femeral Service as Dundes Commission on Saturday Junch 28th at 11.00 am to which all friends are respectfully invited.

COLLECTION - At Mazzreth Bouse, Hammermith, c March 19th 1998, pencefully after a king Union, Pr James Collist SI, former Headmanter of ALLEGA, Pr James Colliscon
S., former Reachment of
Mount St Marry College,
hear Sheffield and forther
Registrar of Heythtop
College, University of
London, Requiem Maps at
The Church of the
humanists Conception,
Parm Street Friday, March
27th 1993 at 200 ps.,
followed by Intentional St COOKE - At St. George's Nursing Home, Cobham peacatally in his sleep on March 23rd 1998. John William Cooke of respected local ache moved to Golddord after his maxing in 1939. By particulon a Chattered Accountant he served as Tressurer for the London Berough of Hampsteed and Counden until his activation to 1946.

until his retinament in 1962. Duting Works War III he served in the KURI he served in the KURI he served in the fire served in the best of served in the served in t

only.

DANEE - Dr. Alem. Peacefully on 20th March 1998, aged 69 years. Rocadeswar Llys Belly Drive, Liandisches. Destry loved instruction. Destry loved instruction, and Georgias, and loved institute of Richolas. Funeral takes place on 28th March at Llaumbos Freich Charmh et 11.00 am followed by instrument service at the Gt. Onne Constern, Any further enquiries please to Tom. Own & Son, Tel. 01492 860280. DOMBL - John, on March 21st

NORELL - Joun, on March 21st 1998 peacetrilly in Eastbourne General Hospital. Dunity loved singer of Tony and sizes - she are of Valetia. Loved and loving sunt of Cambline, Rigal, Shaon, and James, Also a much loved gent-aunt. Funcal Service at Eastbourne Commetorine on Tuesday March 31st at 3.45 pis. Family Howevs only, densitiess if desired to Gaust Commet Struct Hospital, cio Hafine & Son, Funcal Densems, 19 South Street, Eastbourne, 19 South Street,

FARRELL - T.J.Y. (Pat) (88)
Formerly of Busines Aires
American, Gled precents Crematorium, nr. Camberbur un Wednestiny 1st April at 12 noon. No Howers, describes if wished to the R.N.L. Walmer, cho E. K. Carell 25 Albert Road, Deal.

home is Bridlington on Monday 23rd March 1998. Will be such missed by Molle, Burst, Martin and families. Donations to MEMORY of Colvell Bay LOW, aged S1 years. Thanksgiving Service on Priday 27th March at 2.00 years.

STIMS - Authory Henry, beloved traduction of Hills (Instine), brother of the inte-joins Wasshough, peacefully on Sunday 22nd March 1978, Church Heachig at St. Judes, Countfield Gardens, 5W5 at 3.15 pm on Monday March 30th, Private Committee. Enguises to J H Keepon Tel-017 1 937 0757.

GROSS - Elsem (note Stavens) widow of Dr. Mool Gross pencefully on Manch 23rd. Very much loved by her family and askny friends wordering and her devoted companion Reis Dry Pensand at 5t Panils, Wilton Place at 11.30 are on Friday April 3rd. Panalty frowers only but donarious walcomed for The King Edward TIC's Housemont. Street, London WIN Lak Where she died.

HACKETT - Brian (Resember Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Newcastla upon Tyne) on 22nd March after a long illness, loying and long loyed husband of Hisphet and the hits Frederics, tell he lite Frederice, fa cina, Nigel and tabel and grandfach unie, Cella, Bera, Rive

and Sam. Punetral Service at St. Nicholas Cathedral at 12.30pm on Priday 27th March followed by private crangation, Family Howers only, Domazions if desired to Marie Carle Castre, Marie Curie Drive, Newcastle NE4 65S. HATON-Mary Ellest. On

HEATOM - Many Russen. On 22nd March aged 86 pencefully at 9t George's IUE, Cohham. Seleved wife of the late Jack Wallace, much loved mother of the late John and of Michael, David and Patricia, Joving grandmother of Richard, Amatie, Malcolm, Joanna, Jonest, Constant Moch. grandnother of Richard, Armaile, Malooim, Jounna, Jensy, Iona and Hook. Funeral Service at Purney Vale Counshoring, on Transfer 21st March at 3 or Vale Commission, on Tousday 31st March at 3 pp. Fundly flowers only but donations may be sent to ESPE, Guide Dogs for the Bind or Mational Trust.

HORMS - John Much suddenly at home on March 23rd. Pensell Service All Seinits Parish Church, Chatch St., London N15 at 11.15 a.m. on Tuesday Harch 31.15 a.m. on Tuesday Harch 31.15 a.m. on Chyman Donations 28 desired forwar. Donations 28 desired forwar. Donations 28 desired flowers. Donations if to Shelter c/o William 145 Leytopstone Ros Strations #15 11H.

HOWARD - Bitesa Minion
peacefully on 21st March at
Gueen Alexandra Hospital,
Cosham aged 93. Generous,
loving and much loved
widow of Cool, mother of jo
mod Caryl, grandmother and
great-peacehother. Service
at 2 p.m. at 51.
Particularies, Royals on at 3 p.m. at St.

Bartholossev's, Rogada on
Monday 20th March and
afterwards at Caryf's, No
flowers bet department
destred to Nehab (of cardiparisots). Donations and

JOHNSTON - On 23rd March, Kameth Johnston G.C., dair husband of the late Princilla-johnston, and deer Pather of William, Catherine, Lucy and Mary, of Street, Somerset, Burkal and Meeting for Weeking, 3 pres, on Saturday 28th March at Princis' Meeting Home, Street, Somerset, Somerset,

KAYE-BADGER - Helen, On Moderning Sunday, in her 90th year, pencetally at home Caustly loved moths mother-in-law, granny, great-punsay and filend. Femeral at Englowase Consensation of Francisco Commission on Toesday
Herch 31st at 1.30 pm.
Family Blowns only or
Constions if desired to The
Rational Ostoporoels
Society, P.O. Raz 10,
Radstock, BAS 315.

MHP - Joen Mery pescafully on Minch 22nd. Much loved wife of the late John Funesh on Monday March 30th at 12 noon at All Salants, Dalverton. Family Houses only, Constitues to Age Concern of 9 D Bodger FD 38, Bettleton, Dalverton TA22 THU.

MMOTT - Harold Waneley, On.
17th March 1995 penorfully
at hotes, aged 94 years.
Mych loved hesiband, father
and grands that: Teneral at
George-over-hands United
Reform Christians Priday 3rd
April at 12.00 jm. LASSOW - Hilds on Manch
21st Genriy leved mother of
Arciline and Anoughts, after
a long finner. She will be so
posely missed by her samy
friends and spinting.
Passets at St. Margane's
Church, fact Twintenhan
on Monetor March 20th at 12

MASON - Paul Micholar I.t. Col. (ant'd) died pencefully at. Woodkands, Fiset, on 22nd March aged 71. Much loved hother of Miles and uncla of Robert and Chades. Fatally Ligamen ann-All

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MANNON: suddenly and tengically on Sunday events 22nd March. De Phillip John Hawson aged 46 years, of Abbry Lane, Sheffield. Beloved Imbeand of Son, addred Eather of Rebecca an Robert, a much loved son, Son-th-law, grandens and inother and very dea leved by the families Helen, Catl, Claire, Elimbeth, Stella, Jud David, Lisa and Hele

Silinibeth, Stella, Judith, David, Lien and Below and by too many friends and collesquan to passation. He had so much joy and emergy in his and we were so backy to have had had he nous. Service at Roly Trinity Chanch, Gover Sond, Shaffield on Tosedny 31st Manch at 245 pm followed by cremation at Entrilities Wood, Cut Diowers may be sent to John Heath & Sons, NO Shaffield.

pacticismes—A. Grada aged 74.
years pancefully after a
years pancefully after a
years pancefully after a
years pancefully after a
Hospital Loved husband of
Hospital Loved husband of
Hargery and loving futher of
Clara, Citve, George and Entyand grandfather to his 12
special grandfoldene.
Funeal, Service at Hye
Chutch, Harefordshine on
Tuesday 31st Musch 1998 at
11.30cm. No flowers but
donactors if desired to Bye
Clutch of E W Mann & Son,
51 West Street, Locaringtor,
Tel: 01548 412353.

MODERICAR - Kenneth Markey aged 86 years of Shandy Hall, Convoid on March 22nd offer a short illness. Husband of Julia and Steher of Preparis James and Ric. Futural Service Convoid Parish Church Pricey Z'Yn March 26 Julia Memorial Estrice to he held in done March at I Lum. Memorial Service to be held in due course. No flowers by sequest. Denations to Lamence Seame Trust,

MOREFALBARD - William Daniel, swidowly to London 19th Binneh aged 57, Beloved heaband of Boronem Many. Devends Sichar of Andrea, Devends Sichar of Andrea, Devends Sichar of Andrea, Devends, Twa Teya and Daniel, Grendy adsend by all those whose lives he vouched. Pensend Service in Mines Wednesday 25th, Monch, Thunkughring Memocial Bines 25th April, 7.30 p.m. at Ream Street Church, Housin Russet, London WI, Dougleion in Welliam Mantalburio Memocial, Fund, Los Angeles Thines (London Bursen) at

ORNARSY WHILE- Estherine perceivally on 22nd March. 1998 (wildow of E F Wells - Artist). Requires Mass at the Visitation Convent Eddport Deset on Monthly 30th March at 12 moon followed by cremetion. Enquiries Tel-01308 420724.

POULE-WESON - On 22nd Maych pencarally at hom Dun's Smith Poole-Wilson CRE FEGS aged 93 years. Widower of Monique, devoted Sather of Nichalaw Bee and Mary, and genedisther of Pencaral genedisther of Pencaral Alexandre, William, Mich and Omness, Popural of Bravick it Same Carach Burwick At James Cremsho 30th Manch at 2.30 pm. Fundly flowers only. Donations may be sent to "Exicute of Christic · c/o H A H » Hospital" c/o H A H Son, 77 Rescount Bo Salisbary SP1 3AX

POTTER - On March 22nd store a short fibress, farthur, beloved husband of Wendy. Funesal Service will be held at the Goldens Green. Green Contact Hoop Lune, fivi 1 on Tuesday 3 Let Hanch et 1.30 p.m. All enquiries to John Sheery. Teh 0181 864 3240.

SUMPTION - Harold, on 18th March aged SI, peacefully at his home. Detaily loved fitther of Jermins and Adulm and husband of the late Roth Pameral 3.30 pm Priday 27th March at Hallagon Cassastorium, East Pinchley. He floored to the team, Help the Aged or Society of Primes. A Memoral Service for Harold will be held at 2.30 pm on Mondry 20th. April at Priends House, 173 Buston Road, London RWI.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

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WATERHOUSE - A Survice of Thumingstring for the Hife of havid Surchay will be held at St Marylaboure Parish. Causch, Harylaboure Bond, HWI at 2.30 pm on Waterstry 22nd April. Afterware at the REA, 46 Portland Place, W.L.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

LEARNING - Part (note Manufa) who died on Movember 13th 1977. Through her courage and moral strongth, and the dedication of the start at the Name I Manufa III. dedicate Royal Maradem Huay Royal Maradem Huay and peolonged life of many others. It was an honour others to know her are for his was an experience of his section. a pleasure to know her through 32 years of happy marriage. She was a fragile tennings. Sure war, a tich upon a creek sea. Richard Leaving and family.

1990. - 25th March 1990.

r wife Ames, John. RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

COTTON - Adam, Daniel, Flora and James would like to warnly congentulate their parents, Daniel and Gloria, who were married on 25th Minch 1956 at Singers Bill Synatogine, Binninghese, on the consists of their linby Wedding smalryssary.

A SERVICES

Counselling (UK) Ltd SIED YIB IIE IE! (2) \$24 IN CONSTRUCT OF COSTA SATURA Saturation of construction of the costa Saturation of the costa saturatio

privitay - On March 19th at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Josy and Jamia, a daughter, Dalsy Paja Silver. drughter, Daisy Rajo Silver. 2008. On March 18th at The Portland Rhospital to Laura (nife Cohen) and Spencer, a son, Ethan Elany. Obs 2 2008. 2014 Sept. 1808. The Portland Rospital to Respirat and Paul, a son, Charles Theodore (Charles). denly but peacefully at home in Dent. Combris. Care beloved wife of the late George Ratten adored mother of George, Richard, Rugh and Rosemary. A toring and worth keyed or mandmether to globs. Sen-

DEATHS BUCHARAM - Lal, On March
23rd at peace in Carlord.
Devoted wife of the late
Major Charles Sucheman.
Beloved mother of Gay and
Robin and much loved.
Lalligean. Funeral Setvice at
8t Margaret's Charch, off
Woodstock Road, Onford on
Saturday March 28th at
11,30 am.

constitute it destroit for the ESPCA or The Donley Senctuary (Sidmorth) both to Messus P.I. Hauris Funeral Directure 2 Cross Street, Burnham-on-Sea TAS 1BK, Tel: 01278 782886.

Rasthounts.
SLUE-On 19th March Hope:
Fills at home aged 87.
Evaluated of the late Honor loving father of Charlette and Susamah and gamdfather of Alexander and Fredile. Funeral at \$2 John as Hampdrand, Thursday 26th March at 1.00 pm. No Howers.
Descriptions to The Royal Institution 21 Albemarie Street, WIL 48th Memorial Sarvice will be in into May.

GOULDENG - Edward Tate pascastally at home on Sunday March 22nd, 1998 aged 68 years. Frecious numbered 67 years are described by his family and many friends around the world. Covenstion, Savvice at Lodge Hill Covenserium, Weekey Park Road, Selly Oak, Riveringham, on Tuesday Manch 21st, at 120pm. Followed by Service of Thanksgiving at 3r. Augustines Causch Lytelton Road, Edgbeston, at 2.15pm. Domestons to Mount Sp. Riversument, 12 Palace Street, Leadon, SW18 5F, Riverse if wished no Thee, Parker & Co. Let., 122 Station Road, Buthouse, Birmingham 817 918.

HOMARD SEET - Descrip Mary (Mickle), non Resister. On the 22nd March 1976 at The Byle Nauning Rome, Scidpert, Donet.

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WELLS— Julie Catherine
Hower Wells (Dr Catherine
Attery) on 22nd March in
Winchester, aged 55 years.
Widow of Jack, inspiring
inother of Army and Carol
(Wells) and loving
grandimother of Caminy, De
red Casper, Bundred at hes
with her beloved Jack and
Anny, Private funeral. No
flowers please, but
dynasticine, if denied to the
Royal Marsden Hospital clo
Royal Marsden Hospital clo
Street, Winchester.

PROFESSOR SIR DEREK BARTON

Professor Sir Derek Barton, FRS, Nobel Laurente in Chemistry. died on March 16 in College Station, Texas. aged 79. He was born on September 8, 1918.

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off:

Pre

ir Derek Barton was one of the great chemists of the 20th century. He shared the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1969 with Odd Hassel for a striking discovery, described in a paper of just four pages, which led to a new field of chemistry. He revolutionised "search and the teaching of organic chemistry at Imperial College of Science and Technology in London, and continued to make major contributions to research until the day he died. Derek Henry Richard Bar-

ton was born in Gravesend. Kent. After Tonbridge School. he joined the family carpentry business but soon commented that there "must be something more interesting in life". He applied to university and chose Imperial College simply because it was the most expensive in London and therefore he thought it would be the best. After two years, he graduated in 1940 with a BSc in chemistry, and continued research in the same department with Professor Ian Heilbron, work which led to a doctorate in 1942. During those war years he was excused night-time fire duty in South Kensington when a medical examination deemed his heart to be weak. He joined military intelligence for two years, and worked on secret inks for use not on paper but

on skin behind enemy lines. On his return to Imperial College, after a year in industry. Barton began his independent academic career. Ironically, he was not appointed to a position in his speciality of organic chemistry, but lec-tured in physical chemistry. In 1949 he decided to move to



America, and in 1949-50 he was a Visiting Professor at Harvard, where he worked closely with another wellknown organic chemist. Robert Burns Woodward. Barton joined in the heated discussion about the unusual reactivity of

steroids. His conclusion, based on studies of the reactivity of certain steroids and closely related isomers, was that the physical arrangement in space of the functional groups was responsible for the different rates of reaction. Thus was born conformational analysis. which altered the way in which chemists think about

the shape and reactivity of molecules in three-dimensional space. Barton returned to London

as a Reader at Birkbeck College, where he taught part-time for three hours in the evening but had the rest of the day for research. He continued to work on conformational analysis and the chemistry of steroids. He also discovered the importance of phenol oxidative coupling, which led him to propose the metabolic pathways by which a poppy makes morphine and other alkaloids. From Birkbeck College he moved to Glasgow University to become Regius Professor of

Chemistry, In Scotland Barton observed that the pockets of the university seemed to be bottomless. His creativity in the realms of synthesis continued unabated, with important work on santonin and photochemistry.

In 1957, after two years in Scotland, Barton returned to his alma mater, Imperial College. as Holmann Professor of Chemistry and head of the organic section. He continued to make a myriad of original contributions to natural product research, for instance in application of radical chemistry to antibiotics. During the 1960s and early

1970s, the chemistry department at Imperial College was ruled by the triumvirate of Barton, Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson and Richard M. Barrer, all strong-willed men of science. Since he constantly smoked fine Havana cigars. students were well aware when Barton was patrolling the laboratories to ask: "Do we have anything new to report?" They became insecure when he suddenly quit smoking and

the tell-tale aroma vanished. After 21 years at Imperial College, Barton retired at the age of 60 and became director of L'Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles at Gifsur-Yvette in France, where he studied the invention of new chemical reactions, especially using radicals, so opening up a whole new area of organic synthesis. In 1986 he moved to a third career at Texas A & M University as Distinguished Professor and subsequently Dow Professor of Chemical invention. He continued to work on novel reactions involving the oxidation of hydrocarbons, whimsically termed

Gif and Go-Agg oxidations.

The author of more than a thousand papers in chemical journals, Barton also held many successful patents. In addition to the Nobel Prize he received many honours and awards including the Davy. Copley, and Royal medals of the Royal Society of London, the Roger Adams and Priest-ley Medals of the American Chemical Society and many honorary degrees. He was a Fellow of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh, a foreign associate of the National Academy of Sciences (USA) and a foreign member of the Russian and Chinese Academies of Sciences. He was knighted in 1972 and received the Légion d'honneur (Chevalier 1972; Officier 1985) and Japanese Order of the Rising Sun. In his long career, he trained more than 300 students and postdoctoral fel-lows, many of whom now hold major chairs of chemistry.

Barton travelled the world lecturing and acting as a consultant in companies and universities. In ten years he flew more than three million miles, and seemed hardly to suffer jet lag. He ate heartily and enjoyed fine wine. He had a well-defined sense of humour, to those who knew him well, although most found him aloof. He had attended two conferences in honour of his 80th birthday and others were planned.

He is survived by his third wife, Judy, and by a son from his first marriage.

LEONARD DANIELS

Leonard Daniels, former Principal of Camberwell School of Art, died on February 24 aged 88. He was born on November 28, 1909.

ALTHOUGH he was an accomplished painter, Leonard Daniels will be best remembered for his long career as an art teacher in schools and in further education. He was Principal of Camberwell School of Art for 27 years and even after retirement he was, to his delight, much in demand as a part-time teacher. He continued with his own

work, though he did not exhibit regularly. His drawings especially have a quality of great fluidity, and were executed with superb skill and perception. Leonard James Daniels was

born in London and in youth showed significant promise in athletics, particularly on the running track, where he achieved standards of potential Olympic quality. He was also a keen long-distance cyclist. He became a student in the art school of the Regent Street Polytechnic and went on to the Royal College of Art in 1929. His particular interest in portraiture was given a strong boost when he was awarded the Royal College of Art's portrait prize in 1932, and during the 1930s he exhibited at the Goupil and Redfern galleries.

After the Royal College of Art he taught successively at Clayesmore School, Dorset, and Taunton's School, Southampton, before taking a post at the new Southampton School of Art. During the war the college received a direct hit which killed and injured many of the staff and studentswho were gathered in a basement air-raid shelter. With the College of Art at

Portsmouth also incurring damage from air attacks, students from both colleges were evacuated to joint facilities in Winchester. Daniels

LALITA PAWAR

was closely involved in the organisation of this move and in the academic work of the two communities. He was an able lecturer with a secure command of his subject and an exceptional ability to guide young students in their development as artists. But he was also good at stimulating

lay audiences During the war he was commissioned by the War Artists Advisory Commission. and his work is represented in the Imperial War Museum and Southampton Art Gallery. He also painted a mural for the wartime British Restaurant in Winchester. Unfortunately, in an accident on night firewatch, he lost the sight of one eye.

In 1943 he was appointed head of the school of painting at the Leeds College of Art. before his ultimate appointment as Principal of Camberwell School of Art, where he remained until his retirement in 1975. Among the many distinguished members of staff at Camberwell in his time were William Coldstream. Victor Pasmore, Robert Medley. Michael Rothenstein. Edward Ardizzone and Richard Eurich.

Daniels's qualities were recognised by his peers when in 1965 he was elected to the presidency of the National Society for Art Education.

He enjoyed travelling, and a Leverhume study bursary in Italy in 1957 - based in the British School in Rome - and sabbatical leave in the South of France in 1972 gave him welcome opportunities to extend his painting interests.

After retirement from Camberwell in 1975. Daniels continued to give critical appraisals and lectures, and was seldom without a sketchbook in his hand. In his later years he did many portraits. until in the late 1980s poor health restricted his activities. His wife died in 1967, but he

is survived by their daughter,

SIMON WINGFIELD DIGBY

Simon Wingfield Digby. Conservative MP for West Dorset 1941-74, died on March 22 aged 88. He was born on February 9. 1910.

A SCION of the well-known Dorset family that had sent many of its members to the House of Commons, Simon Wingfield Digby enjoyed the distinction in his later years of being one of the few surviving figures from the wartime Parliament. First elected unopposed under the wartime party truce in 1941, he went on to represent West Dorset for 33 years.

Never the type of MP to set Thames on fire, he did, however, enjoy a more than five-year period of office under both Churchill and Eden as

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Civil Lord of the Admiralty (in effect junior minister for the Navy). From 1957 onwards. however, he was more than content to sit on the back benches - even without the handle, which he always affected to despise, he was the prototype old-style knight of

Simon Digby Wingfield Digby, as he was baptised, was the son of Lieutenant- Colonel F. J.B. Wingfield Digby and the grandson of J. K. B. Wingfield Digby, himself a former MP for North Dorset. From a thoroughly traditional background, he received an equally traditional education, first at Harrow and then at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he read history.

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special study of international affairs and he was one of the British delegates to the International Studies Conference of 1934. He travelled round the world - as was the habit with read history. affluent young men of those As a young man he made a days — and in 1937 he was

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CANAMIS GREET GOA TEL ARY

duly rewarded when he was selected, at the age of 27, to stand for the traditionally Tory territory of West Dorset. Had it not been for the war, he would probably have found himself in the House of Com-

mons before he was 30, but the outbreak of hostilities in 1939 meant the postponement of any general election for what turned out to be nearly six years. Digby, however, was more fortunate than some other prospective candidates in that his predecessor grew bored with keeping the seat warm for him and in 1941 insisted on resigning.
At that relatively early stage

of the war there were seldom any by-elections - a position that was to change later with the advent of Sir Richard Acland's Commonwealth Par-

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COMBAT STRESS

WE SAF

ty and a rash of independent candidates coming forward. The young Wingfield Digby, who was already in the Army. was thus able to sail into the House of Commons without even having to engage in any

He played little part in the business of the Commons during the war, being taken up instead with his duties as a staff officer both at home and in North-West Europe. He was a supporter, however, of the Tory Reform Committee along with figures such as Lords Hailsham and Hinchingbrooke — and he resigned from it only on being appointed an Opposition whip in 1948. From there it was only a

short step into government office at the Admiralty when Churchill - a collateral connection of his through Randolph Churchill's brief marriage to his kinswoman Pamela Digby — formed his postwar administration in October 1951.

Digby's ministerial career fell victim to Harold Macmillan's arrival in Downing Street in January 1957. Yet after being consigned to the the back benches he neither sulked nor repined, becoming chairman of the Conservative backbench forestry sub-committee and serving on the Council of Europe and in the Assembly of the Western European Union, where he became Conservative leader in 1972, just two years before his retirement from the

Commons. He spent that long retirement living at Sherborne Castle in his native Dorset, interesting himself in fishing, bloodstock and breeding. Simon Wingfield Digby had married, in 1936, Kathleen

Kingstone, the daughter of a Canadian judge. She survives him, together with a son and a daughter.

Lalita Pawar, actress. died on February 24 aged 79. She was born in Indore, central India, on April 18, 1918.

IN A cinema tradition which thrived on the exaggerated representation of wicked mothers-in-law as the fount of all evil, Lalita Pawar was easily "the queen of mean". A fixture in Indian cinema for nearly four decades, she acted in more than 600 Hindi and Marathi films, unnerving viewers with her trademark souint and domineering manner. Although she played a variety of roles, the image of her which endured was that of a nasty older woman out to make life miserable for the younger woman who had had the misfortune to enter her household.

It wasn't always that way. Pawar began her career as a child star in the era of silent movies. A chance encounter with the veteran director N.D. Sarpotdar in Pune at the age of nine led to her being drafted into the film business. In 1928, she played the leading role in Arya Mahila (Aryan

Woman"). Her earliest film for which a print is still extant is Diler ligar (Gallant Heart), an historical romance made in 1931. The film was directed by Ganpatrao Pawar, whom she subsequently married. In it she played a Zorro-type adventuress, a role she would return to often.

The introduction of sound saw her stock as an actress rise further. Her first talkie was Himmat-e-Mard (The Bravery of Man") and her performance in Duniya Kya Hai. based on Tolstoy's Resurrection, was critically acclaimed. Pawar would later look back upon those days with great fondness. Even though money was less," she



said in a 1994 interview. "we were treated with a lot of

An accident during the shooting of a film in 1942 led to her left eye developing a squint. Film lore has it that she was slapped so hard during a scene that one side of her face was paralysed; the truth is that she suffered an attack of facial paralysis while shooting an underwater sequence: either way, her days as a heroine came abruptly to an end.

Beginning with Ramshas-tri, a 1944 Marathi film in which she played a scheming wife, Pawar used her frosty looks to launch a second career. Dahej ("Dowry"), made in 1950, marked her debut as a mother-in-law. In the film, she drives away her son's bride for failing to bring enough dowry and pushes him towards a second marriage. Most of her roles as mother-in-law revolved around similar themes. Part of the reason why they struck a chord with audiences was because they accurately reflected contemporary social

mores and attitudes.

Her first marriage Ganpatrao Pawar ended in divorce, as did her union with the music director Hanuman. Those who knew her spoke highly of her compassionate nature, as exemplified by her portrayal of a kind-hearted landlady in Anari ("Novice") (1955) or a nurse in the 1970 film Anand. Since she never had any children,it can never be known what kind of mother-in-law she would have been like in real life. She died alone in her flat in Pune, leaving no survivors.

AUTOMOBILISM POSSIBILITIES OF ELECTRIC CARS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT)

The high price of petrol is making those who own motor vehicles, either private or commercial turn their attention to methods of propulsion other than that of the internal combustion engine. Electric traction by means of storage batteries, which hitherto has been accounted rather a failure, at any rate in Europe, is now being taken more into consideration: and it is as well to ren the fact that there are upwards of 20,000 vehicles propelled by storage batteries in the United States, at the present moment, varying from light runabouts to heavy commercial forries. The latest form of Edison banery may he criticized on some points, but so far as recent tests have shown, it has proved itself an excellent traction battery on account of its strong construction, and the possibility of being charged at exceedingly high rates. From the traction point of view, perhaps the most salient feature is that the battery is considerably lighter than the ordinary lead

In point of cost, the storage battery car is about equal to, perhaps slightly higher than, a

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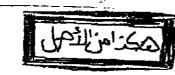
March 25, 1913

There were fewer than 150,000 private car licences at this time yet the cost of petrol was disturbing the motorist. The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders offered a 2,000 guineas prize for a home manufactured fuel to take the place of petrol.

high-powered petrol car; but the initial cost is the only item to be considered, for with the exception of tires [sic] the running cost is very low. The batteries are guaranteed for four years; and, if at the end of that time the same efficiency is not shown as when new, the warranty given with each car provides for their replacement. The electric motor is a trustworthy and durable piece of machinery. There are only two items affected by wear and teat; the two bearings and the commutator brushes, which are not expensive fittings. Regains and replacements, therefore, show a great saving over other mechanically-

propelled vehicles. The cost of charging varies in different localities, but generally speaking an average of ad per unit may be taken. Experience has shown that a small car e propelled by the Edison storage battery can be run from London to Brighton on 13 units, at a cost of 64d. for current This aspect of the matter is an interesting

one, for the extensive use of storage batteries for traction purposes would undoubtedly possitute a boon to the London electric light and power companies. Assuming that motorcommbuses, cabs and commercial vehicles were to run on such a system, they could be charged between 7 at night and 7 in the morning, a period which now coincides with the lightest load at the various power stations: and it is anticipated that even at the present charge of Fd. per unit a considerable profit could be shown. The low cost of current thus brings the storage battery car into a far brings the storage oatteny car into a rar cheaper category than any other form of power used in proposision. Another advantage is that the electric vehicle, being more or less is that the electric vehicle, using more or less "loof proof"—at any rate, much more so than either the steam or the internal combustion engine—it can be enroused to less skilled labour, which should also be a factor in labour, which should also be a factor in lessening the cost of running small delivery carts, taxi-cabs, and motor-omnibuses.



NEWS

Civil ruling brands man a killer

A man who has never been charged or appeared in a criminal court was branded a murderer by a judge in a ruling that made legal history.

Mr Justice Alliott said that the family of Joan Francisco, a gynaecologist who was strangled in her flat, had proved that she was murdered by Tony Diedrick an obsessive former boyfriend who was questioned about the killing but released without charge.

Racism blamed for murder hunt failure

Racism "both conscious and subconscious" permeated the investigation into the murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence in which police missed leads, bungled searches and ignored vital information from the public, a judicial inquiry into the case was told... ... Page 1

Blair in French

In the first speech in French by a British Prime Minister to the National Assembly, Tony Blair spoke for 40 minutes with barely a stumble, to the astonishment of his listeners..... Pages L, 2

Author given out

A row between an author who lives beside the village green and the Rolvenden Cricket Club was resolved in court when the author's claim for damage done by balls hit into his garden was

Killed 'for money'

A loner murdered a judge's daughter, slashing her throat, because she refused to give him money, Liverpool Crown Court was told Page 4

Oscar stays American

Titanic won more awards than its

rivals put together while the all-

American romantic comedy As Good as It Gets took Best Actor and Best ActressPage 5

Sculptor accused A sculptor accused of stealing body parts from the Royal College of Surgeons was interested in "doing a 20th-century Leonardo

da Vinci", a court heard .. Page 6 Pier rescue

Brighton's West Pier, left derelict by years of neglect, will enter the millennium returned to its former glory, thanks to the National ..Page 8

Wild life danger Ministers face a showdown with their nature advisers today over the fate of wildlife areas where

sake of cheaper water Page 9 Measles warning

Thousands of children could be maimed or killed if they were not immunised against measles, mumps and rubella, parents were told by the Chief Medical

damage may be allowed for the

Mafia trophies

Police cracking down on the Mafia in the Naples area found that crime bosses are acquiring new status symbols: menageries of lions, leopards, pythons Page 12 Ministers hang on

There were indications in Mos-

cow that most ministers would keep their jobs. But there was still no announcement of a new Prime ..Page 13

Welfare setback

Up to half of people thrown off the welfare rolls under tough new laws are failing to get work, according to studies which reveal the darker side of America's revolutionary experiment Page 14

African dream A school in Uganda with neither

electricity nor telephone lines has been promised by Bill Clinton that it will soon be connected on the Internet with a school in America ...

Labour deserts Blackpool's delights

■ The Labour Party is severing its 70-year-link with Blackpool, which revels in its reputation as one of Europe's brashest seaside towns, by moving its conferences to Bournemouth and Brighton. The decision has incurred the wrath of the town's formidable boarding house landladies who have objected to Labour's jibe that their houses are too shabby....



Protesters occupying trees which are to be felled because they obstruct views from a riverside development at Kangana, Surrey. Page 9

Banking: The watchdog for data privacy is to investigate allegations that banks and building societies dump confidential customer information on the streets Page 23

Boots: The high street chemist, is to sell health and travel insurance in a partnership with Royal & Sun Alliance, one of the Britain's largest insurance companies Page 23

Savoy: Granada faces mounting pressure to compromise over the price at which it will sell its 68 per stake in the Savoy Group if it wants to avoid derailing the sale of the hotel operator

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 36.7 to 5983.7. Sterling fell from 107.9 to 107.8 after a fall from \$1.6766 to \$1.6750 and from DM3.0660 to DM3.0647 Page 26

Cricket: Morning rain and determined batting by Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe improved England's prospects of avoiding defeat in the final Test Page 44

Football: Paul Gascoigne decided to leave Rangers and return to the North East by joining first division Middlesbrough, who play Chelsea in the Coca-Cola Cup final this .. Page 44

Rugby union: Saracens welcome

back two internationals, Philippe Sella and Kyran Bracken, for their top-of-the-table match against ..Page 41 Racing: Tony McCoy equalled Peter Scudamore's record of 221

winners in a National Hunt season with two winners from four rides at

Carved in Stone: Actress Sharon Stone talks about her age (just 40), her marriage (to a newspaperman), her new film and - inevitably that memorable scene in Basic ...Page 35. Instinct ...

Morris major: As the founder of the Cultural Industry and co-director of Artangel, Michael Morris is bringing a fresh spirit to British arts production.... Page 36

Rising star: Yes, Che Walker was named after the Latin American revolutionary, and no, he doesn't wear a beret. But he's written a Royal Court play Page 36

The other dome: The exciting new centrepiece of the British Museum - Sir Norman Foster's "domed" Great Court — should not be left bare, says Marcus Binney_Page 37

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown reviews

the animated Anastasia

■ FILMS

releases

■ BOOKS

and other new

Claire Messud;

Diana Mosley

Lawrence James;

Michael Hoffman,

☐ E Midlands, W Midlands, Central N England, NE England: wet morning, drier this afternoon. Moderate southerly wind. Max 13C (55F) ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Abgrdeen, Morray Firth: early rain, brighter and drier by afternoon. Moderate to tresh southerly wind, section, southwesterly. Max 12C

eering southwesterly. Max 12C

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyli, NW Scotland: rain easing to drizzle.

☐ Orliney, Shetland: rain for most of the day. Fresh to strong southerly wind. Max 9C (48F).
☐ N fretand: heavy rain returning later this afternoon and evening.

The Republic rain soon clearing, then sunny intervals. Rain spreading east in afternoon. Wind moderate; occasionally fresh, southwesterly.

Strengthening southwesterly Max 13C (55F).

on: The resig of two disgraced football chiefs has revealed that football may have at last woken up to the value of temate support, says Bridget Harrison, a OPR fan.

Nigella Lausson: The single state; the difficulty of filming Lolita; criticising other people's taste. Page 16 Four and leathing: Los Angeles is a great place to be if you've been nominated for an Oscar. But otherwise, it is simply terrifying, says

Kevin Bacon...

Shires shock: How the Chancellor's increase of stamp duty will hit the shires hardest... Interiors: Leading interior decorators reveal their secrets Page 32

Robin Cook in a Cartland novel: Michael Heseltine's E250,000 autobiography ____Page I8

By taking the Israeli initiative under its wing and transforming it into a UN proposal, the UN could ve Lebanon ine cover ii : least in this instance, to break out of the Syrian grip. If Annan and the UN really care about restoring the sovereignty of Lebanon, they will not be dissuaded by Syria's assertion of its right to held Lebanon hostage - The Jerusalem Post

Preview: David Jason plays a former spy on a deadly mission to Chicago. March in the Windy City (TTV, Spm). Review: Joe Joseph on thirtysomething women who yearn ...Pages 42, 43 for babies

Biair in French

Tony Blair, by recognising French achievement and also couching his message in appropriately philosophic tones, may have a better change of convertsPage 19

Clinten in Africa

it would be the triumph of innocence to imagine that the White House will not attempt to extract seme direct benefits from Mr ClinPage 19 ton's travels.....

Drifting to douth

The end for a sector of the fishing industry is a severe outcome. But it is not as drastic as the depletion of ...Page 19 the seas..

SIMON JENKINS

What Walter Mitty has not dream: of standing, white-suited, on a isopical lawn, sipping a gin and batter while a band plays the Rule. Britannia! and dusky maidens hand him communiques of peace

R. W. JOHNSON

The lax state of law and order makes South Africa a natural for money-laundering. The breakdown of the Customs service has resulted in a flood of smuggled arms and drugs... ALAN COREN

I shall take the comb which has lain beside me on the desk as I typed, and tweak its contents into my waste-bin. Hair today and gone tomotrow ...

PETER RIDDELL

Blairism means active government but with the crucial proviso that nothing should be done to alarm the middle classes Page 10

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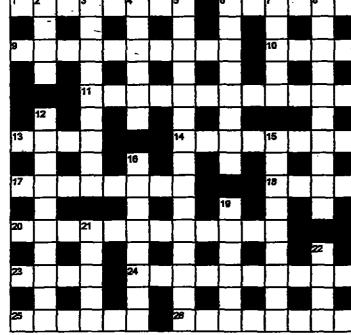
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Professor Sir Derek Berton, Nobel laureate in chemistry; Simon Wingfield Digby, Conservative MP for West Dorset, 1941-74; Leonard Decists, painter: Lalita Pawer,

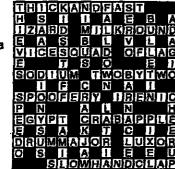
Church weddings; Brazil's forest fires; Sinn Nein; legal aid ices; defence decisions; Lord Irvine's wallpaper; phone changes.......Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,748



ACROSS

- I Started riding on one's high horse? (6-2).
- 6 Father's attempt to make some dough (6).
- 9 Contemplating time put into peace-making (10). 10 Part of register read out (4).
- 11 Girl's equivalent of electric blue? (8,4).
- 13 A fairy-tale beginning (4).
- 14 Skirt given high praise at dance
- 17 He portrays people to put it another way, he paints (8). 18 Detective discovers for hat bish-
- op's mislaid (4). 20 A cold fish, the lady's concealed
- weakness (8,4).
- 23 Refuse to give private place army finally provided (4).
 - Solution to Puzzle No 20747



24 Trousers for water-carriers (10). 25 Good lake, in the beginning, for

26 Fair-weather form of address (8).

- 2 Enjoys American and French art
- 3 Hero, for one, interferes with heroine in novel (9).
- 4 Battleaxe of old once discarded by fighting man (6).
- 5 Our prince speaks out start to listen intently (5,2,4,4).
- 6 Though useful, it no longer. makes the point the writer wants
- 7 Shares, namely, disreputable type's underwritten (5).
- 8 inflexible part of army didn't advance as much (10).
- 12 Proved innocent in trial hence free (2,3,5), 15 Hunt, after lots of changes, that
- 16 Dogsled I upset, being put out of position (8).

goes downhili fast (9).

- 19 Flag of knights carried by peas-
- 21 Some blissfully distracted characters turn up in this (5).
- 22 People with a hidden purpose (4). Times Two Crossword, page 44

UK Weather- All regions 0336 444 910 huide M25 M25 and Link Roads National Motorways Continental Europe Channel crossing 0336 407 505

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SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for

Burope Country European fuel or Franch Motorw

Car reports by fax 0334 416 399

The second of th

General: most ereas will see rain in Scotland, heavier rain will quickly clear eastwards but western parts will then see drizzle, with the east brightening. Northern freland will have a little morning drizzle turning to heavy rain in the atternoon. Rain in Wales and England will clear eastwards with most parts having a drier atternoon. Rain will continue in southeast Eng-land and western coasts will see

some drizzle. Tonight a heavy band of rain will sweep southeast across the country.

London, SE England, E Anglie Central S England, E England: overcast and wet. Rain should ease by afternoon. Moderate southwest

nd. Max 13C (55F). Channel Isles, SW England: rain easing to drizzle, remaining dull and misty. Moderate southwest wind. Max

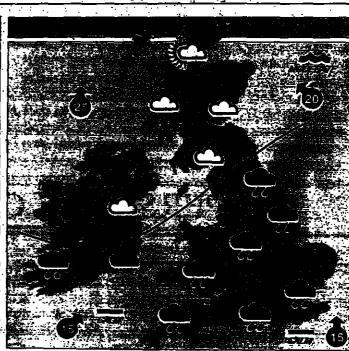
13C (55F).

S Wales, N Wales, NW England Lake District, late of Man: rain dying out, coastal drizzle and hill-log remaining. Freshering southwe wind Max 12C (54F).

Max 12C (54F). Outlook unsettled with more rain.

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Changes to chart below from noon: low A will drift south; low B will drift north; low C will move slowly northeast; high E will weaken



H 402221482247085788048 PM 920 11:54 7:18 9:56 4:12 3:07 4:09 2:34 4:53 9:13 8:53 4:20 1:24 9:43 Heights in metres

London 6.22 pm to 5.50 pm



INSIDE TODAY



BUSINESS

Janet Bush says give the New Deal a chance to work **PAGE 27**



ARTS

Sharon Stone submerges herself in her new role **PAGES 35-37**



SPORT

Gascoigne to join Middlesbrough in time for Wembley **PAGES 38-44**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998

Boots to launch off-the-shelf health insurance



Lord Blyth: £8 million press launch

Halls to

reduce

family

stake in

United

By Jason Nissé

THE Hall family is to cut

its 57 per cent stake in Newcastle United follow-

ing the resignation of Douglas Hall, whose

father, Sir John Hall, res-

cued the club from obscu-

rity in the early 1990s. Sir John yesterday

agreed to return as tempo-rary chairman of the club

— which is owned by the publicly quoted pic — after Mr Hall and Freddy

pperd, the previo

dub chairman, resigned

after ill-advised comments

published by a Sunday

The Times has learned

of behind-the-scenes-

moves to sell at least part

of the stake held by Cam-

eron Hall, the Hall fam-

ily's company, to cut the family's influence. Sir Ter-

ence Harrison, the plc

chairman, said cutting the

stake was an option. "It

would not be opposed by

He was speaking as

'Relegation

is not part

of our

business plan'

Newcastie United revealed

an 80 per cent increase in-

pre-tax profits to EILI mil-

lion in the six mouths to

January 31. Earnings rose

Lop to 7.8p a share and

there is an interim divi-

Jo Dixon, the group's finance director, admitted

the results were flattered

by the team's run in the

European Champions

League and the fact that a

disproportionate number

of the team's home games

The team is now peril-

ously close to relegation from the Premiership but

has reached the semi-

finals of the FA Cup.
Freddy Fletcher, the
group's chief executive.

would not say how much dropping out of the top

plan," he said.

would cost

fell in the first half.

dend of 0.6p.

the board," he said.

BOOTS, the high street chemist, is to sell health and travel insurance in a partnership with Royal & Sun Alliance, one of the UK's

The chemist will offer a range of nine health and travel insurance products which can be bought in a pack "off-the shelf" in 250 of its largest stores from April 15. Shoppers will be covered as soon as the

insurance pack is swiped through the till. Boots will market the products to the seven million customers who have an Advantage card, which was launched last summer. It is expecting to sell about 250,000 policies in the first year, rising to one million at the end of five years. The company is

specifically targeting regular customers who have not bought insurance before. The company, whose chief executive is Lord Blyth, is spending £8 million to support the launch and soon will start a

television and press advertising campaign. The product range comprises five health cash-plan schemes which will be linked to NHS care. They include family health, dental and accident cover. The four travel insurance schemes include cover for annu-

al, single trip, winter and gap year travel.

Steve Russell, the managing director of Boots, said the move was a natural extension of the Boots brand and emphasised that the company had no plans to become a fully-fledged financial service provider or to enter banking. It would it be offering private medical insurance either. He said: "We will use Boots The Chemist's retail skills to position and sell the products literally selling them over-the-counter and offering customers instant insurance

Boots's entry into the £l billion market for health and travel cover was welcomed by Direct Line, the telephone financial services provider which has been campaigning against the selling methods used by travel agents and tour operators. The travel agents and tour operators industry holds 75

per cent of the travel insurance market. Direct Line said: "Anything that helps break the monopoly of tour operators and travel agents in the travel insurance market is 2000 news for the consumer."

Bob Clark, the manager of Thomas Cook travel insurance, said that any competitor entering the market was a threat but that travel agents are still the best placed to sell

The Boots family medical cover provides 16 different benefits, ranging from help with optical fees to prescription charges. It offers two levels of cover, namely the Silver plan, costing £8 a month, and a Gold plan, at £16

Dr Penny O'Nions, a medical insurance specialist, said: "The problem with hospital cash plans is that they tend to act like a sponge or a Swiss cheese People tend to fall in the gaps through ignorance, believing that the plan is going to offer fuller cover than it does."

Banks

face data

privacy

inquiry

By RICHARD MILES

THE watchdog for data priva-cy is to investigate allegations that banks and building soci-

eties routinely dump confiden-

tial customer information on

Punch magazine alleges that

many of the country's biggest banks do not shred confiden-

tial data, but leave it in bins

the streets.

BUSINESS TODAY

US RATE 5%** 103**±* 5.87%*

2,4990 218.43 107.8

130,17* 109.5 Tokyo close Yan 129.91

outside the branches. Its investigation — a rummage through the bins outside branches of Halifax, Barlcays, NatWest, Lloyds TSB, Midland and other banks -unearthed unused cheque books, unexpired credit cards security codes for branches

and accountholders' details. At one branch of Barclays in Bayswater, West London, Punch says it found a computer printout listing thousands of customers, their account numbers, type of account, balances and overdraft limits. David Smith, assistant data

protection registrar, said he was concerned that this type of information had been disposed of so insensitively, and that he would have to consider an investigation. If any of the banks or

building socieites are found to have broken the Data Protection Act, they could face an unlimited fine. However, the watchdog is more likely to impose an enforcement notice. aimed at ensuring there is no recurrence of the incident.

The British Bankers' Association said it would consult members about the article, but emphasised that security arrangements were the responsibility of individual banks.

Lloyds TSB, one of the banks mentioned, said it had launched an investigation into how such sensitive documents had not been shredded. It said: This is an isolated incident, and we do not believe it is a

1.6757 (1.6767 3.0656 (3.0654 10.2715 (10.2740

A report in today's edition of Brent 15-day (Jun) \$15.00 (\$15.30) London close \$301.05 (\$293.35)

Battle for Midshires descends into farce

BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE battle for control of Birmingham Midshires threatened to descend into farce yesterday after the building society said it could not recommend an agreed £630 million offer from the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Mike Jackson, chief executive of Midshires, said he no longer believed the price was "fair and reasonable". As a result, the society could not publish its transfer document next month, and payouts to its 1.2 million members would be

delayed beyond the autumn. However, the Midshires board is prevented from opening talks with Halifax, which two weeks ago tabled a bid of E780 million, because RBS holds an exclusivity agreement until the end of the year.

Dr George Mathewson, chief executive of RBS, said he was disappointed at the rejection of the offer. He said: Over the next few weeks, we will be considering, with our advisers, our position under our legal agreement with Birmingham Midshires."

A spokesman for Halifax said: "This has turned farcical. We hope the Royal Bank will allow the Birmingham Midshires to talk to us. Our offer is signficantly better for the society's members."

Mr Jackson said the board was unable to recommend the RBS offer in the circumstances. "including the near 50 per cent increase in the value of retail banks since last August".

Pressure on Granada over price for Savoy

By DOMINIC WALSH

GRANADA faces mounting pressure to compromise over the price at which it will sell its 68 per stake in the Savoy Group if it wants to avoid derailing the sale of the

luxury hotel operator.

Although several potential bidders have approached the Savoy with indicative offers of about £500 million, Granada and the trusts controlled by the Wontner family are said to have reached an impasse over the division of the spoils. The shares, driven 25 per cent higher on bid hopes, shed

iterday to £18

The auction, which is being handled by Baring Brothers, Savoy's City advisers, appeared to be well advanced last week, when the Savoy board admitted that it had "received a number of approaches". It has received about half a dozen serious approaches, with US predators Starwood Lodging, Meditrust, Blackstone Group and Patriot American Hospitality leading the field.

But the Savoy's controversial two-tier share structure, which famously enabled the Wontners to keep the Forte family at bay, is once again causing friction. Gerry Robinson, the Granada chairman, is pressing for his company's 68 per cent. which carries just 42 per cent of the votes, to receive a higher proportion of the proceeds, claiming that the trusts ability to muster 50 per cent of the

votes is now in doubt. Sources suggest the trusts are looking for a fivefold premium for their high-voting B shares, whereas Granada is said to have mooted a figure of no more than 2½ times. At a sale price of about £500 mil-lion, this would mean Granada. receiving about £295 million compared with £320 million if Mr Robinson gets his way. A source close to the negotia-

tions said that the various trusts, advised by NM Rothschild and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, would block a sale rather than accept a lower price. It is debatable whether the Wontners can still muster 51 per cent, but what is clear is that neither side can do a deal without the other. If Gerry Robinson thinks he can close the gap between the price of the A and B shares, the trusts will be inclined to walk away. The whole thing is in danger

of jarring to a halt."
One analyst said: "Granada shareholders want to see the Savoy situation resolved. Anyclose to £300 million would be a great result. It would be foolish to lose it for the sake of £25 million."

One factor behind the sudden interest in the Savov is the dramatic improvement in performance since the arrival of Ramón Pajares as managing director in 1994. The fruits of his efforts were evident yesterday as the group beat City forecasts to report a pre-tax profit of £22.2 million, compared with a refurbishment-hit loss of £24.3 million in 1996. Operating profit was 54 per cent higher at £24.3 million from turnover up 15 per cent at £101 million. Earnings before interest, tax and depreciation -a key statistic for any bidder

 reached £29.4 million. Beating the £20 million pre-tax profit level triggers a oneoff bonus payment to Mr Pajares of £150,000, while Alan Fort, finance director, receives £100.000

Adjusted earnings per A share reached 63.3p (38.8p), while the dividend is 2lp (17.5p) per A share and 10.5p (8.7p) per B share. The yield per available room from its London botels, which include Claridge's and the Con-



Interest in the Savoy has grown with the improved results since the arrival of Ramón Pajares | widespread problem."

Matalan founder fashions £178m cut at float

By Sarah Cunningham RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN HARGREAVES, chairman of the Matalan discount clothing club. is set to make around £178 million for himself and his family when the company that he founded 13 years

Newcastle. "Relegation is not part of our business ago is floated in May.

Mr Hargreaves, 54, who began his career selling clothes from a market Commentary, page 25 stall, has guided the Lancashire

company through rapid expansion that has seen it grow from eight to 75 outlets in the past seven years. Customers of the out-of-town stores join the club for £1 and are then entitled to buy brands such as Ben Sherman, Wrangler and Lee Cooper

at discounted prices. Mr Hargreaves and his family own 89 per cent of the shares and plan to retain a 65 per cent stake after flotation. His three children, Maxine, Jason and Jamie, all work in the business as buyers. Mr Hargreaves, who lives near the company's Skelmersdale headquarters, is head of the buying department as well as executive chairman.

Day-to-day running of the business is left to Angus Monro, chief executive, who formerly worked for Kinglisher. Kinglisher came close to buying Matalan in 1994, the year in which the company last considered

flotation. Mr Monro and lan Smith, finance director, between them have a 5 per cent stake. Matalan is expected to be valued at this year. New Look is likely to be

of the shares are to be placed with institutional investors. The flotation looks unlikely to clash with that of another clothing

spring. Its timetable appears to have

about £200 million. Up to 35 per cent valued at about £250 million. ☐ Ottaker's, the book chain, is joinretailer, New Look, which had been preparing to come to market this

ing the stock market with a £30 million price tag on April 16. James Heneage, the chain's founder, will have a £3.9 million stake after selling £600,000 of shares. The company is raising £5.6 million to expand.

slipped and the float, which was

attempted and shelved three years

ago, is now not expected until later

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By Jon Ashworth

DIRECTORS of GTech, the American lottery operator, spent nearly four hours yesterday seeking to convince officials that they should remain part of the

National Lottery. Tim Holley, the Carnelot chief executive, accompa-nied the GTech board of directors in their discussions with John Stoker, the acting lottery regulator. Bill O'Connor, GTech's chairman and chief executive officer, said the meeting with Oflot had been "candid and thorough".

GTech's fitness to remain part of Camelot is in doubt after Richard Branson's High Court libel win over Guy Snowden, the former GTech chairman. The trial raised serious questions about the effectiveness of Peter Davis, the former regulator, in his vetting of GTech, which faces damaging accusations over its business practices. GTech has never been found guilty of wrongdoing.

Yesterday's meeting will be crucial in helping Mr Stoker to reach a decision on whether GTech should be allowed to continue to operate in the UK. Removing GTech is likely to cause widespread disruption to ticket sales - damaging revenues to good causes and the decision to force GTech's removal could not be taken lightly.

Reaching a decision is likely to take some weeks. It appears likely that Mr Stoker will decide that GTech should remain part of Camelot but he could demand concessions aimed at distancing GTech from its fellow Camelot members. GTech has 22.5 per cent of Camelot. The other consortium members may be obliged to buy out GTech, retaining it as an arms-length supplier of services. Camelot had no comment yesterday.

P&O steams ahead as it reaches targets early

By Carl Mortished, international business editor

SHARES in P&O surged ahead as the company's cruise, ferry and property divisions all delivered big gains in the second half of the

P&O's deferred stock gained 4 per cent to 889p as the transport and real estate group reported a £100 million rise in pre-tax profits to £433 million in 1997.

Lord Sterling of Plaistow. P&O's chairman, said the company had achieved most of the targets in its mediumterm strategy ahead of schedule and he reported strong bookings for cruises in Europe and North America with the new 109,000-tonne Grand Princess booked solid for the entire summer season.

P&O is maintaining the dividend at 30.5p a share with a final 17p despite a rise in earnings from 40.1p to 53.1p a share although the company will have further scope to raise dividends in future. Lord Sterling indicated that

the company's tax charge should fall after the abolition of advance corporation tax. The chairman said that the P&O and Princess cruise brands were benefiting from

the growing scale of the opera-tion with £1.5 billion of ships on order. The ship-building pro-gramme will lead to six new

vessels in the fleet by 2001. leading to a 12 per cent per annum capacity increase for each of the next five years.

Profits at P&O cruises rose 11 per cent to £175 million last year but the strongest gain came from P&O Ferries where profits advanced by almost 40 per cent to £68 million with a 28 per cent rise in the important second half of the year.

The company benefited from the aftermath of the Eurotunnel fire in November 1996 and the merger of its short sea crossing routes with

Lord Sterling said that P&O and its partner. Nedlloyd, had achieved the planned \$200 million (£120 million) in costsavings from their container shipping joint venture by the end of December. Profits from P&O Nedlloyd were down from £18 million to £8 million in the full year but showed a strong recovery from a firsthalf loss of £6 million to a second half profit of £15

Property sales boosted P&O's results with an £80 million gain, the bulk of which came from the sale of the Manchester Arndale Centre for £315 million. P&O said it would take advantage of strong markets to make fur-



Lord Sterling reported strong demand for cruises

Taylor Woodrow keen to grow

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

TAYLOR WOODROW underlined the building industry's growing confidence in the housing market by saying it intends to seek acquisitions in

Colin Parsons, chairman and chief executive, said Taylor, which earns half its profits from housing, would look at buying smaller companies worth between £30 million and £50 million in the UK and at expanding overseas.

Mr Parsons said: "We are

very bullish about housing. Profits from all our housing businesses rose 24 per cent overall. In the UK a lot of the

heat that we saw last year has gone from the market and we are confident that we will see growth in the future."

The average price of Taylor Woodrow homes increased to E96,000 last year from £80,000 in the previous year. Much of the increase was driven by buyers choosing larger property. Mr Parsons said housing looked buoyant across the company's markets.

But he gave warning about the likelihood of land price rises in the UK being fuelled by the Government's initiatives to build new homes on city "brownfield sites" ground that has previously been developed. He said that while the policy was welcome in principle housebuyers

could not be forced to like city

locations and reducing green-

field availability was likely to

pump up the price of country-

The strong performance from Taylor's housing which included a 44 per cent increase in its Canadian operations — helped to drive up overall profits by 23 per cent to £82.1 million.

A final dividend of 3.25p a share lifts the total to 4.5p (3.75p). The final payment will be made on July I as a foreign income dividend. Earnings per share were 14.2p (12p).

GAVYN DAVIES, chief econ-

omist of Goldman Sachs, yes-terday gave warning that interest rates could still need

to rise because of the danger

that the economy is continuing

to grow above trend prompt-

ing much more inflation

Mr Davies, an informal

adviser to the Chancellor, told

the Commons Treasury Select

Committee that previous gov-

ernments and the Bank of

England had left a "significant

risk" to the economy because

they had been too easy on

monetary policy. Mr Davies said that Kenneth

Clarke, the previous Chan-

than is currently apparent.

DTI drive on exports comes under fire

By Alasdair Murray ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Department of Trade

and Industry has been criticised by businesses concerned that it is launching a big revamp of its trade policy while the strong pound is crippling export performance. The DTI is expected to announce today a package of

measures, aimed especially at smaller companies, including a big new trade fair drive and an Internet service designed to provide export leads. However, Stephen Alambri

tis, of the Federation of Small Businesses, described the measures — dubbed the "£99 package" - as coming at the worst possible moment" and offering only a "fool's paradise" for small companies while the pound stays so strong.

The Government is not offering any new help for export-ers to deal with the problems of the pound, which has risen by more than 20 per cent in the past 18 months. Lord Clinton-Davis, Minister for Trade. said that the Government was "acutely aware" of the problems presented to exporters by the strong pound, but that it would be counter-productive to "manipulate with the level of the currency".

Mr Alambritis said that although the package was a welcome start, small business es wanted to see more "rootand-branch reform" of the export services provided by the DTI, including increased investment in the Export Credit Guarantee Department

and embassy country desks. Mr Alambritis said: "The biggest problem that small nesses face is not getting paid abroad. There are too many champagne-swigging diplomats on country desks who do not understand the

difficulties exporters face."

The DTI will back the new package with around £5 million in extra spending this year. It is planning to stage about 800 trade fairs and outward missions over the next year, compared with fewer than 600 in the past 12 months.

ary Policy Committee, should

have raised interest rates fur-

ther. The Bank's failure to take

more action than the four

quarter-point rises it has made

since gaining independence

telt the economy in a danger-

However, Mr Davies de-fended the Chancellor's recent

Budget, saying that it con-

tained the most severe fiscal

since 1981 and that it "would

have been unreasonable to expect more than that". He cal-culated that of the 3 percentage

points of gross domestic prod-uct by which Mr Brown had

cut the public deficit, half was

ous position, he said.

Glynwed to consider metals divisions sale

GLYNWED INTERNATIONAL could raise between £300 million and £400 million from the sale of its two metals divisions as the company continues a wide-ranging restructuring. Tony Wilson, chief executive, said yesterday a disposal was likely in the longer term.

Yesterday Clynyred, which sold 12 non-core businesses last year, reported a rise in 1997 profits to £89.4 million from £86.3 million before tax and exceptional items. Adjusted earnings rose to 24.8p a share from 22.8p. The total dividend rose to 13.20 a share from 12.750 with a final 8.80. The shares rose 330 to 2942p yesterday. Overall profits from the two metals divisions were down 5 per cent against a background of weak metal prices and lower exports and a strong pound. The processing division made profits of £30.5 million on turnover of £309.2 million, down from £33.1 million and £322.1 million respectively in 1996. The distribution division, earned profits of El million, against £10.8 million.

Court rejects BCCI claim

THE liquidators of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) suffered a serback yesterday when the High Court threw out an \$800 million (£470 million) damages claim against Ernst & Whinney (now Ernst & Young), the former BCCI auditor. The claim relates to BCCI Holdings (Luxembourg) - one of three BCCI holding companies. Some \$2.6 billion in claims remains outstanding against Ernst & Whinney. BCCI was shut down by the Bank of England in 1991 with losses of \$10 billion.

Defence costs Marley

MARLEY has spent £900,000 agreeing an out-of-court settlement with a small US rival that claimed that the building materials group had infringed one of its patents. David Trapnell, chief executive, said the company believed it was in the right, but has sought a private agreement to prevent running up more lawyers' bills. Marley profits were up 12 per cent to £48.4 million for 1997. Headline earnings rose 14 per cent to 10.7p. The shares added 32p to 1122p and the dividend is 5.4p (5p), with a final 3.3p.

Taylor quits W H Smith

MARTIN TAYLOR, chief executive of Barclays, has resigned from the board of WH Smith, the high street retailer. Mr Taylor has been a non-executive director of Smiths since 1993. A spokesworman for the retailer said she believed he had resigned because of the pressure of work. Jeremy Hardie, chairman of W.H. Smith, said: "Martin has made a significant contribution to W H Smith-during his five years on the board. He leaves with our thanks and best wishes."

Hunting improves

THE fall in oil prices could not stop a surge in profit at Hunting, the oil services and defence group, last year. Operating profit before exceptional charges rose from £44.4 million in 1996 to £52.3 million. Pre-tax profit was £38.8 million, up from £6.8 million in 1996, when Hunting had to absorb £40.5 million exceptional charges. Turnover rose 2.7 per cent to £1.3 billion. Earnings per share were 13.7p (15.4p loss). A final dividend of 3.25p will be paid on July 1, giving a 9.25p (6p) total for the year.

Downturn for VCI

PRE-TAX profits at VCI, the multi-media publishing group, fell to £6.2 million in 1997 from £9.1 million. Earnings were 13.3p a share, down from 19.5p. There is a final dividend of 5.5p a share, lifting the total to 7.9p a share from 7.8p. The company issued a profits warning in December blaming a downturn in the UK video business for poor performance. The shares rose 7p to 1132p yesterday, against a 12-month

Norweb-Telecom venture

NORWEB COMMUNICATIONS and Northern Telecom are expected to announce today the creation of a joint venture company to offer fast, sophisticated Internet services using conventional electricity wires into the home. The two groups said in October that they had solved the technical problems involved in sending digital data down power wires without interference. Today the companies will formally announce the go-shead for a 2000-home commercial trial in the North West of England.

Shield gets test boost

SHIELD DIAGNOSTICS, the Dundee company that has developed a heart disease test, announced encouraging results from the pivotal Nortawick Park hospital study. Dr George Miller of the MRC Epidemiology Unit at St Bartholomew's hospital, told an Edmburgh meeting that the final figures confirmed the relationship between Activated Factor XII, the blood clotting agent measured by Shield's test, and the risk of heart disease. Shield closed 25p higher at 645p.

KS Biomedix placing

KIM TAN, founder and managing director of KS Biomedix, is selling £2 million of shares in a placing and open offer that will raise £6.1 million for the AIM-listed drug development company. Shares in KS Biomedia have risen from 106p in January to 279p yesterday, encouraged by promising initial results from phase II trials of a rheumatoid arthritis drug. Dr Tan said that 13 institutions had agreed to take shares at 250p in the placing, which was 40 to 50 per cent oversubscribed.

EFM funds plummet

EDINBURGH FUND MANAGERS said the value of Asian funds under management fell from £917 million to £431 million in the 12 months to January 31, a reflection of the economic crisis gripping the region. EFM's pre-tax profits, however, rose from £12.5 million to £16.9 million. Earnings before exceptional items fell from 40.2p a share to 35.6p. The total dividend is unchanged at 25p a share.

ROBECO N.V. (investment comp variable capital) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS to be held on Thursday, 23rd April. 1998, at Concert and Congress building "de Doeleu", entrance Schouwburgplem 50, Rotterdam, at

69.30 hours

AGENDA

Opening
 To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1997

3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year To determine the appropriation of

the profit

5. To discharge the Management
Board and the Supervisory Board

6. To report on the influence of capital providers 7. To receive and adopt a proposal to

alter the Articles of Assoc 8. To compose the Supervisory Board 9. To fix the number of the Managing

(investment company : variable capital) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF SHAREHOLDERS to be held on Thursday, 23rd April. 1998, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Schouwburgolein 50, Rotterdam, at 11.45 hours.

To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1997

To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year

the profit
To discharge the Management
Board and the Supervisory Board

To report on the influence of capital providers

To receive and adopt a proposal to alter the Articles of Association To compose the Supervisory Board. To fix the number of the Managing Directors; to compose the Management Board

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Reports for 1997 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC, Nat West Investments Counter, c/o Nat West Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgare, London EC2M 3UR or Robeco U.R. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Telephone

Holders of Bearer Share Certificates desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting, should lodge their Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted for voting purposes) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, at the address shown above (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) in exchange for a receipt, nor later than Thursday, 16th April, 1998.

Beneficial owners whose Bearer Share Certificates are presently deposited with Beneficial owners whose pearer state Certificiaes are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificiae of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Certificates. The Certificate of Deposit must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for Bearer Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will

constitute evidence of a shareholder's emittement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder

desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Bearet Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-share Certificates registered in the name of Nationa

Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting must obtain a receipt or Certificate of Deposit in the same way as holders of Bearer Share Certificates. If they desire to attend

use same way as momens or nearer spare Ceruncaies. If they desare to attend
the Meeting in person or to be represented they must obtain a form of proxy
signed by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, which form must
be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt
exchanged for the Sub-share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-state Certificates or Certainance to Deposite Beneficial owners of Sub-states registered in any name other than that of National Provincial Bank (Nominees). Limited, holders of Registered Full Shares and Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to annual and vote at the Meeting or to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their stead, must rignify their maenton in writing to the Secretary of Robero N.V. or Rolinco N.V. (whichever is applicable), Cookingel 120, NL-3011 AG Romerdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than Thursday, 16th April, 1998.

Service contracts are not emered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT

Dated this 25th day of March, 1998.

INFORMATIVE MEETING FOR SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Thursday, 23rd April 1998, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Schotwisurgplein 50, Rotterdam, AGENDA

(registered in Philipsburg, St. Maarten, Netherlands

 Opening
 To discuss the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1997 . To discuss the Annual

Accounts for the financial year . To discuss the appropriation of

To discuss the discharge of the Management Board and the Supervisory Board

To discuss the report on the influence of capital providers . To discuss the proposal to alte the Articles of Association

To discuss the composition of the Supervisory Board

9. Any other business

(registered in Philipsburg. St. Maarten, Netherlands ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF SHAREHOLDERS to be held on Monday, 27th April, 1998, at the offices of Robeco Annillen N.V., Kaya Wilson Papa Goden 24, Willemstad, Curação, Conett 24, winemann, Citação, Netherlands Amilles, at 10,30 hours

AGENDA Opening

 To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1997 To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1997

To determine the appropr of the profit To discharge the Manager Board and the Supervisory Board

To report on the influence of capital providers To receive and adopt a proposa to alter the Articles of

To compose the Supervisory . Any other business

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Report for 1997 can be obtained from National Westernster Bank PLC at the address shown by Robeto U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE, Tel: 0171-409 3507.

Holders of Bearer Share Certificanes desirous of attending or being represented at the above stated Meetings, should lodge their Share Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, of Nativest Markets, 1st Floot, 135 Bishopspate, London EC2M 3UR (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) as follows: INFORMATIVE MEETING - NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, 16TH APRIL, 1998. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOT LATER THAN MONDAY, 20TH APRIL, 1998, IN EXCHANGE FOR A RECEIPT.

Beneficial owners whose Bearer Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Certificates. This Certificate must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westmins Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to attend and were at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall, if a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and you in his seed, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank Pl.C as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Certificates of Certificate of Deposit.

hareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to attend either or both Meetings or to appoint a proxy in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Rorento N.V. c/o Avirento B.V., Coolsingel 12C, NL-3211 AG Rotterdam, Netherlands to erive not later than the dates indicated above.

Although proxies may attend, votes will not be east at the Informative Meeting. Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in eccordance with the Articles of Association

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT PHILIPSBURG Dated this 25th day of March 1998.

from improved government re-ceipts and half from a clampcellor, and Gordon Brown, before he handed control of interest rates to the Bank's Monetdown on public spending. Civil aviation boom

Davies says rates

may need to rise

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

their recent surge yesterday as the aerospace and electronics group revealed a 30 per cent rise in 1997 pre-tax profits to E31.5 million on the back of the civil aircraft boom (Adam Jones writes).

The shares rose op to 210½ p. having traded at 160p just a month ago. Operating profits in the aerospace division increased 31 per cent to £19.2 million. Electronics profits

lifts Meggitt's results surged 29 per cent, buoyed by rising demand for its "smart"

> Mike Stacey, chief executive, revealed the group had up to £70 million available for acquisitions and added that the group's market share gains meant its prospects were "excellent".

Earnings per share were 9.4p (7.3p). A final dividend of 7.038p makes a total of 10.357p

Post Office delivers freeze on cost of sending a letter

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT now more efficient. He said

THE COST of posting a letter : will remain the same until April next year after the Post Office yesterday announced the biggest price freeze in 40

Postage rates were last in-creased in 1996, when ip was added to both first and second-class stamps, making them 26p and 20p respectively. The freeze will mean that postage costs will not have increased for 33 months.

Neville Bain, the new chairman of the Post Office, said prices could be kept down ecause the organisation was

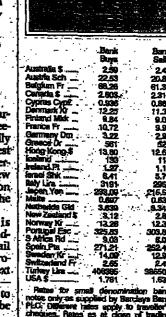
the amount of business done by Royal Mail - now running at 72 million items a day - was growing and the Post Office was on target to meet this year's Government demands for cash.

But Dr Bain, who started. his job only last week, gave warning that the Post Office faced a critical time against international competitors and needed the Government to finish a long-running review into giving the organisation more commercial freedom quickly. He said: "If we are to-

maintain our position as market leader we need the freedom to behave commercially - to raise capital to invest even more, develop new services and move into new markets." It wants action from the Government by the The Post Office is

standardising the cost of sending letters to Europe. Airmail costs to countries in the European-Union are to rise next. mouth — from 26p to 30p while the price of postage to non-EU destinations will be cut from 3lp to 30p.

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1 oday Stuart Rose will go on the offensive. The newly installed chief executive of Argos needs to persuade shareholders that there is a wonderful future for an independent Argos under his leadership, without actually maligning the manage-ment that had led the company into the vulnerable state that caught the attention of Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale.

12 to 100 to

With Mike Smith, the former chief executive, now undergoing chemotherapy but remaining a director, Rose is treading a diplomatic minefield. The £500,000 he has negotiated to salve his pride should the GUS bid succeed has already occasioned some doubts as to how vehemently he may feel inclined

to fight for Argos independence.
But the indications are that,
after six weeks of getting to know
the business, Rose is prepared to forgo the speedy pay-off in return for a bright new future he sees with a repolished Argos. Less kind souls might also point out that the Rose CV could appear a little tarnished if the embar-rassingly public decision of WH Smith not to make him chief executive was so promptly fol-lowed by a vote of no-confidence from Argos shareholders.

Investors have already reg-istered the view that GUS must pay more for Argos than the sighting shot of 570p. The premium that the acquisitive Lord Wolfson has been prepared to offer for his other current bid

Thorny problem for Mr Rose

target, Metromail, has encouraged the market to aim high: last night the shares closed at 606p. With no white knights baving galloped into sight, and Kinglisher ungallantly making clear that it believes it can grow very nicely without taking out this particular rival, Lord Wolfson might find his shareholders wary of a hefty increase in the GUS offer.

Argos would be a useful com-plement to the GUS mail order business, moving it into cat-alogue shops at a time when agency mail order is in gradual decline. Littlewoods acknowledged the trend and, painfully and expensively, launched its own catalogue shops business, Index, almost a decade ago. So there is logic in the merger: the question is one of price. Argos looks tired and has had a couple of poor years. Today, Rose will be hard pressed to defend the company's Christmas trading, when poor merchandising allowed Kinglisher to romp

But Rose does not need to strive too hard to defend the figures, nor the dismal Argos record of diversification. Remember Chesterman, the lavishly launched furniture business that



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

proved to have less spring than a horsehair sofa? The life expectancy for the company's new chain of bargain basement stores seems little better. Not horrors that can be laid at the door of Mr Rose, fresh from his time with Burton. He has merely to persuade shareholders that Argos can be quickly souped up again. Those who are not convinced might do better to sell in the market than hope for an over-generous offer from GUS.

It's a funny old game

sir John Hall is no doubt ruing the day he passed control of Newcastle United to his son. Nepotism does not play well on the stock market and the demise of Douglas was on the cards long before he and Freddy Shepherd suffered a case of loose tongues among the loose women of the Costa del Sol.

Though the knee jerk reaction of many investors to this scandal will be to avoid football club shares, there are many willing to argue against this. They say that the strong non-executive directors - Sir Terrence Harrison, John Mayo and Denis Cassidy did what strong non-executives should do, and righted the wrong. The trouble is that independent non-executives are in short supply at many quoted football clubs — look at the boards of Chelsea Village, where Ken Bates rules by virtue of mysterious offshore backers, and Loftus Road, which owns QPR.
And at Newcastle United the
Hall family's Cameron Hall still
owns a majority of the shares, an
issue which the board is now

trying to address. Assuming Newcastle United can come out of this mess with a sensible board and shareholding structure, it will not be the end of investors' misery. The club's atile over the last few days and this situation could get worse, depending on how Newcastle perform on the pitch over the next few weeks.

The club sits uncomfortably four points above the relegation zone from the Premier League. It is also in the semi-finals of the FA Cup. Relegation could cost Newcastle over £5 million a year in lost TV revenues alone. Reaching the final of the FA Cup virtually guarantees the club a place in the European Cup Winners Cup next year, which would be worth another £3 million of income. No amount of planning, budgeting and sen-sible discussion by the board can guarantee the team plays well. The difference between good and appalling profits next year is beyond the board's control.

This is the conundrum that faces quoted football clubs. They are not like normal companies. If the star striker breaks his leg, or

linesman misses a clear offside decision, this can add or subtract millions from the value of the company. Only a handful of clubs have the strength of brand and income to rise above such unpredictable, and often unavoidable, incidents. Many in the City thought Newcastle United was just such a club. They were wrong.

Waiting game at **Midshires**

embers of the Birm-ingham Midshires building society must be beginning to feel like nonpeople. The prospect of a juicy windfall has been dangled before them but they are prevented from giving the branch even the gentlest shake to hasten its arrival. They can only watch and wait, despite the risk that the seasons may change before they can harvest the fruit, which may even go rotten on the bought.

Such is the ludicrous effect of the building societies legislation. Royal Bank of Scotland is refusing to enter an auction with Halifax for the privilege of taking over Birmingham Midshires but, understandably, it is not

prepared to stand aside and leave the way clear for its more generous rival. The Birmingham Midshires management, who hardly went into overdrive to power through the RBS offer, is free to ignore the views of its members on their future.

A public company would have had to speed up the takeover process, and, had Birmingham Midshires been governed by the same rules, the RBS offer would have been put to shareholders and, presumably, accepted with some alacrity before beaming Mike Blackburn, of the Halifax, had come around the corner.

Those savers who would have welcomed the RBS offer now face the risk of the bank blocking the way of the higher bidder until at least the end of the year. By then, the values attributed to financial institutions may have fallen, perhaps substantially. A fine example of mutuality at work.

Room to manoeuvre

Newly installed as chairman of the Arts Council, Gerry Robinson will appreciate the theatricalities of the game of brinksmanship now being played out over the Savoy. But since Granada wants out and the Wontner family has at last conceded the principle of selling their shares, it would be a poor banker who could not negotiate a deal. The promise of a perma-Lady W could be the clincher.

Nycomed hit by falling X-ray prices

FALLING prices in Nycomed trial Quality & Safety Assur-Amersham's X-ray imaging ance (QSA) business, and a Amersham's X-ray imaging business marred the first results to include a contribution from Nycomed, the Norwegian company that merged last year with Amersham

International.
Shares in the healthcare group, a FTSE 100 stock, fell 59p to £22.71 as it revealed that US sales of X-ray imaging agents had fallen by 15 per cent to £152 million. Bill Castell, chief executive, said he expected a similar level of decline in the US this year.

X-ray imaging sales in the rest of the world grew by 6 per cent to E174 million. Some analysts fear these sales could. hit similar price competition. as could the group's smaller business supplying the agents used with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners.

Nycomed Amersham said it made underlying pre-tax profits of £78.9 million from sales of £568.1 million in the last nine months of 1997. On top of the Nycomed merger in October, comparisons with Amersham's prior year are obscured by its August merger with Pharmacia Biotech of Sweden, the recent sale of the loss-making Indus-

change of year end. The expected £114.5 million of integration costs and the £22.3 million loss on the QSA disposal left the group with a pre-tax loss of £61.9 million for the nine-month period.

Assuming the group had been in existence for the whole of last year, and ignoring currency fluctuations, Nycomed Amersham suggested its pre-tax profits had risen by 9.1 per cent to £198.6 million on sales that were 7 per cent higher at £1.38 billion. On a similar pro-forma

said the strong pound would have cut pre-tax profits by £35 million. It suggested current exchanges rates will cost it up to £16 million this year. Mr Castell said the integration and restructuring, which

basis, Nycomed Amersham

will cost 650 jobs, remained on track to produce £70 million of annual savings by 2000. Nycomed Amersham has declared a final dividend of 17.5p a share. It did not pay an

interim. Last year, Amersham paid a total of 22p a share.

Tempus, page 26

Takeover talk lifts Brunner

SHARES in Brunner Mond, rose 15 per cent to 176p after the chemicals group revealed that it was in talks that might lead to a takeover.

Suspicion is focused on FMC, an American engineer-ing and chemicals conglomerate. Brunner Mond would not reveal the identity of the potential bidder but said: "The offer price proposed is at a small premium to the flotation price of 175p."

A takeover would end Brunner Mond's brief and inglorious career on the stock market. The company was one of the four founding partners of Imperial Chemical Industries but was spun off in November 1996.

FMC's interest in Brunner is thought to be its customer base — the UK company is a major material in glass manufacture.' to Pilkington and St Gobain. Brunner manufactures synthetic soda ash in Cheshire but the US company has large reserves and has been trying to penetrate the UK market.

Analysts were sceptical that a second bidder would emerge with a higher offer. Michael Eastwood, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, said: "Brunner Mond has no pricing power. Even after the share price rise. it has underperformed the market by 37 per cent."



In the van: Malcolm Walker, chairman and chief executive of food retailer Iceland

Iceland delivers new sales

home delivery, which is now

available in all its stores, had

By Sarah Cunningham

EVIDENCE that Iceland's home delivery service is boosting sales took the sting out of a drop in the food boosted customers' average spend from £6.90 to about £8. The company plans to use its retailer's profits and sent its yesterday.

Pre-tax profit before January 3 fell from £56.2 million to £50.2 million. Taking exceptionals into account, pre-tax profit was down to £43.5 million. Like-for-like sales in the

first II weeks of the year were up 16 per cent, compared to a 7.4 per cent rise in the second half of last year. Shares closed 18p higher at 196 p. Malcoim Walker, chairman

and chief executive, admitted

develop a home shopping

not sustainable but said that service. Fully diluted earnings per share were 10.98p, down from 12.23p. The final dividend has been maintained at 3.6p, giv-ing an unchanged total for the new delivery infrastructure to year of 5.4p.

Flextech and BBC venture loses £19m

By Chris Ayres

UKTV, the joint venture between Flextech and the BBC, has lost a total of £19.2 million since it was created in March

The losses are to be funded entirely by Flextech and overshadowed the news that Flextech had finally recorded operating profits for the first time since it was transformed from an oil to a media company in the early 1990s. Yesterday the company also

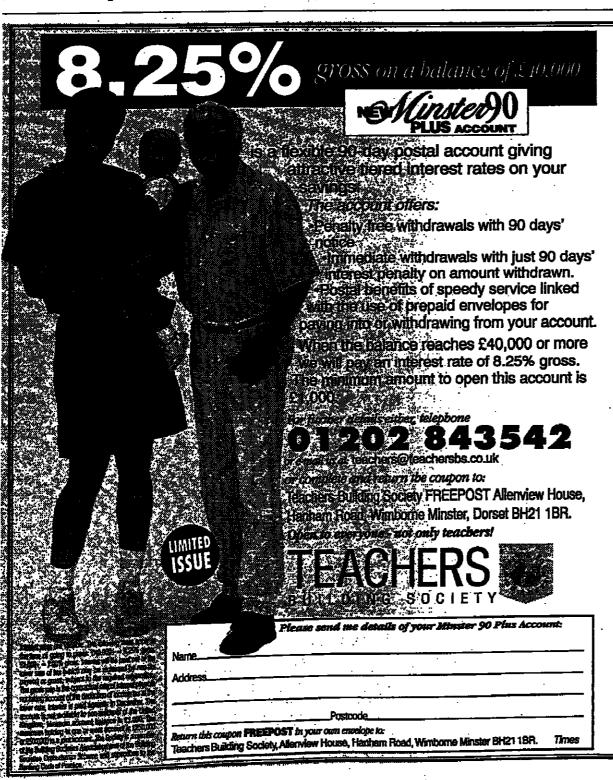
said it would set up a new interactive shopping channel, to be called TV Travel Shop, and had began interactive broadcasting trials with BT. Shares in Flextech rose 29p

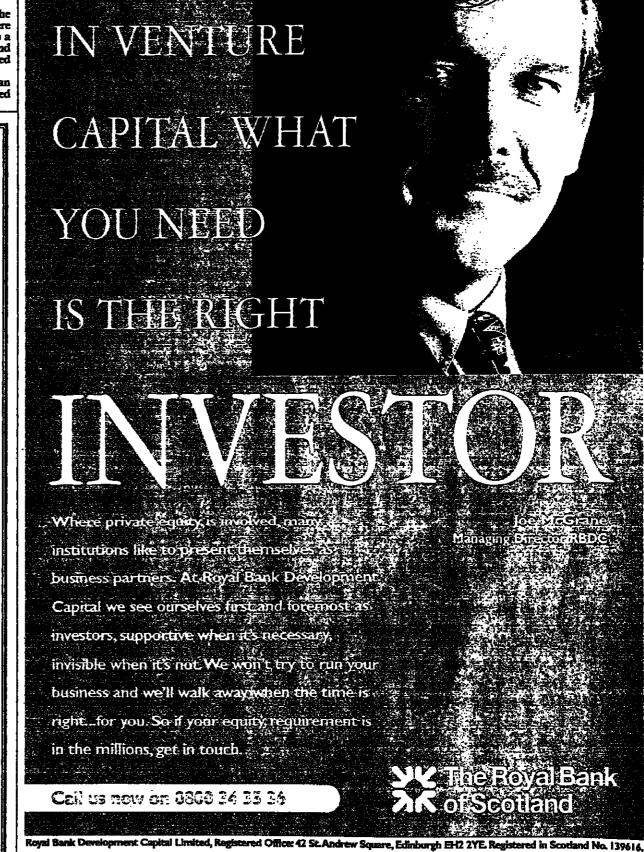
to 535p, bringing its market value to nearly £800 million. Although Adam Singer, Flextech's chairman, boasted that the group's net operating profits were £10 million for the year to December 31, pre-tax

losses after exceptionals were £6.2 million, compared with £14.2 million for the previous

The company revealed that it had spent £7.4 million relaunching and rebranding its channels — which include Bravo, UK Gold and Discovery — while turnover in-creased by 54 per cent from E65.2 million to £100.6 million. Losses per share fell from

12.76p to 3.49p.
Mr Singer said Flextech was happy with the performance of Scottish Media Group, in which it has a 19 per cent stake, and that it was not yet interested in a sale. He also confirmed that the company was still in talks with BSkyB, the satellite operator, over a possible deal to provide channels for its digital service.





A Royal Bank of Scotland Company

STOCK MARKET



Support for detection process boosts Shield

finally come up with the goods for City investors. After months of speculation, scientists have concluded that the group's Activated Factor 12 can detect heart disease early on from a simple blood test.

Confirmation that the process does work has been agerly awaited in the Square Mile and the shares responded with a jump of 25p at 645p, after briefly touching 662½p. That compares with the peak of 900p the price reached in 1996 before doubts about the process and the ability of the group to find a working partner took their toll.

Last night SBC Warburg, the broker, was said to be "waxing lyrical" about the process and prospects for the group. Shield has already teamed up with Abbot Labora-tories in the US. It is estimated the market for the detection of cardiovascular problems is worth at least \$1 billion a year.

Share prices generally closed at their best of the day with the FTSE 100 index finishing 36.7 up at 5,983.7 as total turnover exceeded more than a billion shares. The resilience of the market surprised brokers who had been expecting a relapse in the wake of the overnight setback on Wall Street. Instead, London took its lead from the strong demand for the future. The opening gain for the Dow which saw it claw back much of Monday's losses, rounded off an otherwise solid performance in London.

British Telecom, a firm market of late, retreated 25p to 656p on turnover of 14 million shares after SBC Warburg Dillon Read, the broker, downgraded its recommendation from "buy" to "hold".

ICI saw its lead trimmed to end the session 5p lower at £10.60 after Schroders downgraded its profits forecast for million to £500 million, blaming sterling's strength and a downturn at the group's US operations. The shares are rated a "hold"

Associated British Foods rose 20p to 622p despite Panmure Gordon, the broker, trimmine its profit forecast by E13 million to £415 million. But it still rates the shares a "buy". Speculative buying hoisted Racal Electronics 1012p to 324p. Brokers claim Sir Ernest Harrison, who steps down later this year, plans to go out



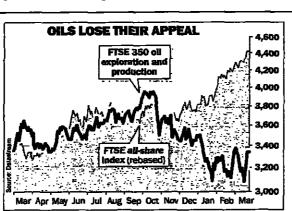
Thames Water shares went down better with investors as a large seller overhanging the market was cleared

on a high note. There is talk he may arrange an agreed bid for the company.

Thames Water bounced 44p to 960p as 586,000 shares changed hands. A large seller who had been overhanging the market has been cleared.

Misys was a strong market, climbing 100p to £30.00 after a meeting with brokers on Monday. Current trading was described as strong. Others to go better in the sector included Kewill Systems, 28½ p to 730p. London Bridge, 12½p to 982½p, CMG, 15p to £25, Sage Group, 225p to £13.375, and Sherwood International, 672p to 880p. Quality Software responded to better than expected results with a jump of

70p to 545p. The breakdown of bid talks



THE revival in the fortunes of the oil industry proved short-lived as the price of Brent crude for May delivnearly half a cent lower at \$14.57.

The oil companies responded accordingly with BP losing 26½p at 907p. Enterprise Oil 15½p at 557 p. Lasmo 4 p at 287p and British Borneo 9p to

359²2 p.
This revived fears that the agreement thrashed out between Opec members and non-members over the weekend to cut production by up to 2 million barrels

per day may not hold. Jurjen Lunshof, oil analyst with Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, said: it will not last. They will want to see how much prices gain once they have cut back. When they have seen what impact it makes, there is always the temptation to produce a few more

He said the oil companies needed a period of stability so they could weigh up the cost of future developments to see if it was actually worth pumping the the stuff out of

shares nursing a loss of 25p at 1564 p. But the company was quick to reassure shareholders that it was evaluating various

News of a bid approach lifted Brunner Mond, the former ICI soda ash unit, 23p to 1762 p. The group was the subject of a management buyout in 1991 and was floated in 1996 at 175p.

options to enhance value.

There was a lukewarm re sponse to the agreed bid for Spandex with the price firmng just 2½p to 312½p. Gerber Scientific of the US is offering 325p a share for the computeroperated signs group, valuing it at £109.2 million. The shares have come up from a low of 225p since the start of the year.

There was a sigh of relief on the Tyne as Freddy Shepherd, chairman, and Douglas Hall, vice-chairman, resigned as directors of Newcastle United after a week of intense pres sure. The pair were accused of insulting northern women and mocking their own fans over the price paid for replica team shirts. The shares responded with a rise of 5p at 100p, partly helped by a maiden set of interim figures towards the top end of

There was further volatility in shares of Viewinn. The price touched a new low of 42p before rallying to finish 2p cheaper at 174 p. The price has fallen from 226p in the

It was the first day of dealings in Safestore, which has been demerged from Safeland, the property developer. Shares in Safestore, which provides secure storage space, opened at an expected 522p. But they quickly raced up to a peak of 110p before ending the day at 105p where the company is capitalised at £10 million. Safeland fell 102p

GILT-EDGED: A firm bonds and weaker German inflation numbers provided the springboard for a rally among bond prices in London. In the futures pit the June series of the long gilt rose £316

to £1084, while among conventional issues Treasury 7 per cent 2007 rose five ticks to NEW YORK: Shares were higher in early trading as inflation fears over a rise in oil prices eased. By midday the

Dow Jones industrial average was up 81.71 points to 8,897.96.

MAJOR	1NI	Æ	į.	ij

New York (midday): Dow Jones 8897.96 (-81.71) S&P Composite 1104.32 (+8.77)
Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16606.39 (-262.44)
Hong Kong: 11645.43 (+51.10)
Amsterdam: AEX Index
Sydney: AO 27920 (+12.7)
Frankfurt: 5028.24 (+56.92)
Singapore: 1640.54 (-19.90)
Brussels:

Paris: CAC-40 1503.40 (+16.10) London PTSE 100 5983.7 (+36.7) . 5523.3 (-2.2) 2872.2 (+14.1)

1123.9m

1.6750 (-0.0018)

German Mark 3.0647 (-0.0013)
Exchange Index 107.8 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm) E:ECU

SEAC Volume

HECEN	138	- 4
Advent 2 VCT	100	
BGR	- 247	
Bass B	. 97	ħ ₂
Eurotuanei 01/	S Wis S	ا ۔ ا

Bass B	9/2	• • •	wring from the Norwegians.
Euromanel 01/03 Wi	s 5	- 12	
Guardian IT	42712	- 12	The performance of the
Hartford Gro	3	1	ongoing businesses was no-
Monsoon	1085	+ 15	where near as exciting.
Oxford Asymmetry	424		Fierce price competition in
	905	+ 8	X-ray imaging has made a
Pennant Intl	1625	1	
			deep cut into profits, and
Quadrant Health	1421		there will be more of the
Quester VCT 2	90		same this year. Nycomed
Safestore	105		had the larger business in X-
		- 1	
and the second second		3232278	ray, but Amersham had its

to in the state of	<u></u>	7.2
Paragon n/p (180) Pex n/p (3) Westbury n/p (235)	37½ ,4 20	·
Pex n/p (3)	4	- i

PRICHE ISSUES

	MAJOHICHANGES
	BIOCO.
1	RISES:
	Ben Bailey 9512p (+18p
.	Plasmon 67'2p (+10p
	Glynwed 29412p (+33p
	VTR 10412p (+10p
	losland Group 1974p (+18p
	Asda 192'zp (+15p
	Sherwood Int 880p (+671-p
	Hewetson 132° φ (+10p
	Hamleys , 292¹₃p (+19p
	Flextech 535p (+29p
	Ascot Holdings 260 2ρ (+12p
	British Energy 521p (+20'ap
	I Campbeller Edition () Com

	Joop (+20p).
Ascot Holdings	260 եթ (+12-թ)
British Energy	521p (+20'ap)
J Sainsbury	
Kewill Sys	730p (+28'zo)
Shield Diag	645p (+25p)
P&O	889p (+33p)
FALLS:	
Superscape VR	156p (-201ap)
Micro Focus	
Alexon	
Dialog	
	235p (-10p)
HOKTKOV	
BT	656p (-25p)

Closing Prices Page 28

.......... 715½0 (-19p)

Cruise control

P&O deserves credit for a thundering recovery in profits. A large portion of the pre-tax in must be attributed to the sale of Manchester's Arndale Centre, a one-off fillip that accounted for the bulk of the £80 million exceptional property gain. Ferries, too, have benefited from the (one hopes) exceptional fire in the Channel Tunnel in late 1996.

Nevertheless, no one will quibble with P&O's operating profit growth, which was well into double digits. The cruise order book is looking more than just healthy.

P&O's investment in cruise ships is the jewel in its crown, producing strong profits growth in a market that appears to be increasing in size at an extraordinary rate. Over the past five years, the cruise market in the UK has been growing at 15 per cent per annum and the US market has claimed 9 per

Amersham

SINCE Amersham Interna-

Nycomed of Norway last

ed increase in pro forma

earnings per share. This is

largely a tribute to the terms

that Bill Castell's highly rat-

ed company was able to

cent per annum gains for some 20 years. Still, P&O's rate of investment must give pause for thought. The company has £1.5 billion of cruise ships on order. in anticipation of double-digit growth well into the next century. With each cruise ship costing £200 million or more and rival operators investing heavily. P&O can ill afford a year of slow bookings. The cruise business relies on the prosperity of retired people; a sustained bear market could have a dire impact on bookings for a week in the Caribbean.

Such worries are probably more than a year away. In the meantime, recovery should continue and P&O is still at a discount to the market at less than 17 times earnings. But investors who think it deserves more than a market rating should look again at those big

ing strongly, and ultrasound

offers huge promise. Amersham Pharmacia Bio-

tech is also well-placed as a

supplier to the drug develop-

ment industry. On nearly 23

times forecast earnings, the

Industrial Quality & Safety Assurance, recently sold, are easily overlooked amid yesfell, sales of radiopharma-Nycomed ceutical agents are still grow-

Even the continuing Amersham business made tional announced its £2.1. billion merger with only £46 million in the last nine months of the year less, pro rata, than the £66.2 July, the group's shares have million made in the previous risen by more than 40 per-cent — or almost exactly in line with yesterday's reportfinancial year.

terday's complicated figures.

ring from the Norwegians. The performance of the ngoing businesses was nohere near as exciting ierce price competition in ray imaging has made a eep cut into profits, and here will be more of the ame this year. Nycomed ad the larger business in X-

shares have already taken credit for much of the inte Although imaging profits gration savings. Hold.

Iceland

WAIT around long enough, and most things come back into fashion. Just as flares platform-soled shoes swing in and out of favour, so iceland has yo-yoed between being a stock market darling and written off as a redundant concept.

own problems. The losses at

:Those brave souls who ignored the prevailing fashion and bought leeland shares nine months ago. when its very raison d'être was in question, have already The shares have risen by more than 100p from their romping ahead of the rest of the supermarket sector.

The low point was reached after a long period of flat or even negative like-for-like sales. The bald reason why the price has recovered is that sales have begun to grow again, and the reason behind that lies in the company's intelligent decision to put a lot more stress on good

customer service in-store and through the offer of home delivery. This emphasis is par for the course at the big chains like Tesco and Asda, but, for all the claims that are

made, is all too rare. Malcolm Walker, the everenthusiastic chairman, has garmered some useful publicity by campaigning against genetically modified foods. Moreover, the development of the home delivery business has put Iceland well ahead in the home shopping game. Iceland has not yet become so

Flextech

market value looks extraordinary alongside its undistinguished performance. financial

It's not even as though the product is particularly glamorous. Flextech specialises in producing the endless hours of cheap and bland television that plug the gaps between satellite and cable services.

Flextech heroically declared yesterday that it has finally made an operating profit, but the epic length of time taken to get thus far should dampen enthusiasm. Admittedly, the deal with the BBC gives it some quality content:

The company's other experiments with Microsoft. BT, and now with interactive shopping services should be discount to the sector, and a ous; there is no proof that multi-channel television will be watched by enough people to cover costs, let alone make a profit; and no one yet Flextech's £800 million knows what form of technology will be used to distribute the interactive digital services.

Investors should beware this company and its its epic overvaluation.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

	COMMODITIES	
LIFFE	ICIS-LOR (London & 100pm)	GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES LIFFE WHEAT LIFFE BARLEY
77.70	CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)	
COCOA	Brenz Physical 14.20 -0.30	
Mar 1066 SLR May 1167-1157	Brent 15 day (May) 14.65 -0.35	May 72.35 May 73.25
May 1077-1076 Jul 1179-1173	Brent 5 day (Jun) 15.00 -0.30	74.50 Sep
Jul 1090-1089 Sep 1196-1192	W Texas intermediate (May) 16.10 -0.25	Sep 74.00 Nov 74.25
Sep 1105-1104 Dec unq	W'Texas Intermediate (Jun) 16.35 -0.35	Nov
Dec 1126-1124	December december	Jan 78.00 Mar 78.25
Mar !!46-!!41 Volume: 3989	PRODUCTS (\$/MT)	Volume 081 Volume 20
ROBUSTA COFFEE (5)	Spot CTF NW Europe (prompt delivery)	LIFFE POTATO (E/O Open Close
Mar 1730 SLR Nov 1652 SLR	Bid Offer	Apr
May [730-1726 Jan [627 SLR	Premium Unld 158 (+8) 162 (+9)	May 730 750
Jul 1702-1695 Mar 1607 SLR		Jun unq 82.0
Sep 677 SLR Volume 972		Volume 72
WATERS BUT A DECIMA	3.5 Fuel Oil 66 (n/c) 68 (n/c) Nachtha	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
WHITE SUGAR (FOB)	Naphtha 141 (+4) 144 (+5)	RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/h)
Reserve Dec 200.1-77.3	IPE FUTURES (GNI LEA)	ADT
Spot: 272.5 Mar 282.1-79.3	GAS OIL)
May 271.8-71.3 May 285.0-82.3		LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI LLASIO) 50
AUG 274.0-73.2 AUG 288.0-85.3	Apr 135.50-35.75 Jul 142.50-42.75	
Oct 277.1-76.3 Volume: 1408	May 137.50-37.75 Alag . 144.75-45.50	High Low Close
	Jun 139,50-39.75 Vol: 31498	Mar98 993 985 985
	DDF377444	Apr 98 1000 990 995
MEAT & LIVESTOCK	BRENT (0.00pm)] May 98 101; 1015 1015
COMMISSION	May 14.57-14.55 AUG 15.36 SLB	Oct 99 1065 1095 1093
Average Satstock brices at representative	Jun 14.81 BID Sep 15.54 \$LR	Vot 93 lots Open interest 1691
markets on March 23	Jul 15.06 SLR Vol: 33984	Index 1011 -14
(p/kg/w) Pig Sheep Cattle		
GB:75.36 98.73 88.18	1000-L-0 01-L- L-0-1000	METAL EXCHANGE Radolf Wolff
(+/-)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Eng/Wales: 75.46 99.62 87.66	Copper Gde A (Utomne) Cash: 1749.0	-1750.0 3mdx 1776.0-1777.0 Vol. 1259225
(0/-) -0.43 -0.03 +0.92		564,00 562,50563,50 26300
(%)++3.0 +12.0 -8.0		·1057.5 1084.0·1084.5 459850
Scotland: 73.17 95.42 93.14		
		·5500.0 5475.0-5480.0 14005
(+/-1	Alaminium Hi Gde (Sitonne) 1431.0	1432.0 1459.5-14:0.0 1254800
	Aluminium Hi Gde (Sitome) 1431.0	
(+1-11,36 -0.26 +2.03 (%) -10.0 -18.0	Alaminium Hi Gde (Stronne) 1431.0 Nickel (Stronne) 5490.0	1432.0 1459.5-14:0.0 1254800 5495.0 5590.0-5595.0 103158
(+1-11,36 -0.26 +2.03 (%) -10.0 -18.0	Alaminium Hi Gde (Stronne) 1431.0 Nickel (Stronne) 5490.0	1432.0 1459.5-14:0.0 1254800 5495.0 5590.0-5595.0 103158
174 -1.36 -0.26 +2.01 (N) +19.0 -18.0 -18.0	Aluminium III Gde (5 tonne) Nickel (5 tonne) LIFFE OPTIONS	1432.0 1459.5-1440.0 1254900 5492.0 55900-5595 0 103193
(7/4 -1,36 -0.26 +2.01 (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%)	Alunialum Hi Gde (Stronne) 1431.0 Nickel (Stronne) 5490.0 LIFFE OPTIONS	1439.5 1490.0 1254800 5495.0 5590.0-5595.0 103158
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(7/4	Alunialum Hi Gde (Stronne) 1431.0 Nickel (Stronne) 5491.0 LHFFE OPTIONS (*944) 950 72 54 69- 78 55- 64- (value 55) 42- 67 67- 9- 29 38 55- 64- (value 55) 42- 67 67- 9- 29 38 55- 64- (value 55) 42- 67 67- 9- 29 38 55- 64- (value 55) 39 48- 55 39 17 20- (value 55) 39 18- 29 48- 55 39 17 20- (value 55) 39 18- 29 48- 55 39 18- 30 18- 32- 48- 55 31 31 34- 34- 34- 35 31 31 34- 34- 35- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 31- 34- 34- 35- 35- 34- 34- 35- 35- 34- 34- 35- 35- 34- 34- 35- 34- 34- 35- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34- 34	1432.0 1459.5-1400.0 1254.800 5492.0 5590.0-5595.0 103158 Paylens 900 85 120 140 23 50, 67: (1947.) 950 57 34 115 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 52 14 175 50 75 75 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18
17-1	Alunialum Hi Gde (Storme) 1431.0 Nickel (Storme) 5490.0 LHFFE OPTIONS (*944) 950 72 54 59- 78 55- 64-, Vederage 550 42- 67 57- 9- 28 38 (*5914) 550 48- 42- 62 31- 51 52-, Wedneth 550 38- 48- 55 31- 77 57- (*502-4) 390 11% 32- 41% 15- 31 34-, 200-60 200 11% 32- 41% 15- 31 34-, 200-60 200 11% 32- 41% 15- 31 34-, 200-60 200 10% 32- 32- 32- 32- 32- 32- 32- 32- 32- 32-	439.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.
17-1	Aunitalium Hi Gde (Stronne) Nickel (Stronne) LHFE OPTIONS ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 73 74 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75	439.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.5 449.
17-1	Alunialum III Gde (Strome) 1431.0 Nickel (Stronge) 5491.0 LHFFE OPTIONS (*944) 950 23 54 69- 28 55- 64', Vatione 550 42'- 67 87-, 99- 29 38 (*971) 500 187- 42'- 63 31-, 17 20'- Weethert, 561 23 46'- 55 31-, 17 20'- (*2024) 290 111'- 32'- 41'- 15'- 31 34'- 2024 290 101'- 32'- 41'- 15'- 31 34'- 2024 290 101'- 21'- 21'- 5 12'- 12'- (*24-21'-) 2500 55 160 220'- 110 172 719-	1432.0 1459.5-1400.0 1254.800 5690.0-5595.0 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103
17-1	Aunitalium Hi Gde (Stronne) Nickel (Stronne) LHFE OPTIONS ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 72 ("944) 950 73 74 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75	1432.0 1459.5-1400.0 1254.800 5690.0-5595.0 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103153 103
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the New Deal goes national in less than two weeks, the hopes of this Government riding on its success. If anything is the leitmotif of new Labour, it is its programme to propel the young. the long-term unemployed and the socially excluded back into work and self-respect.

Opposition critics are already carping despite the fact that two of the main features of Labour's approach were pionecred by the Conservatives: an element of contpulsion that outlaws benefits as a way of life for young people and the mobilising of the private sector to train, give work experience and, it is hoped, permanent jobs.

At a Politeia conference yesterday, David Willetts, MP, attempted to debunk the whole notion that equipping people with skills would help them to re-enter the labour market. He said that "all you need to tackle is a set of psychological barriers to work" and that, in this regard, Job Clubs had been an enormous success. More than this,

Give the New Deal a chance to work he suggested that the whole effort to create more jobs was unneces-because enthusiasm is the glue sary because Britain had a relative-

His skills argument goes against all the evidence: 60 per cent of companies surveyed by the Insti-tute of Directors said that their main fear of taking on New Dealers was that they lacked the appropriate skills. On Job Clubs, you don't have to have seen The Full Monty to know that plonking men in a room and leaving them to fill out application forms like so many detention lines after school is not exactly motivational. On whether it is worth creating more jobs, it should be noted that one in five British households have no

ly high level of employment.

recipe for social cohesion. It is disheartening to hear criti-

one bringing in a wage. That is no

giving the evolving patchwork of national and local, public and private partnerships some coherence and vigour.

Keith Faulkner, of Manpower, which recently won the New Deal contract for Bridgend and the Glamorgan Valleys, said that an element of haphazardness as local New Deal plans are drawn up is a price worth paying for speed. "By moving quickly, the Government is capitalising on the goodwill that exists. If the Government had moved more slowly, some of the design issues would have been solved but it would have missed the wave of enthusiasm which came with the election," he said.

There are inevitably criticisms of the programme. One of the key debates is about flexibility. Sir Hugh



Sykes, chairman of the Sheffield Development Corporation for nine years and author of a new Politeia pamphlet, argues against a sim-plistic national template for the New Deal. Why should a £60 inwork subsidy be standard? Why not different subsidies according to different regional needs? Why is the New Deal for a standard six places? Why should money be targ-eted at a specific group such as the under-25s? Why not chamel money to different groups in different areas, according to local need?

This is good sense, but a balance has to be struck. Without a clear national framework, at least at the start, Labour's New Deal would be just as chaotic as the mish-mash of training and counselling so derided in the Tory years. And Sir Hugh's worries probably under-state the degree of local flexibility and imagination — already becoming evident.

Manpower is an example. It is offering to act as a quasi-agent for nervous small and medium-sized Dealers itself and placing them with local firms for work experience. The hope is that these

permanently, but by structuring things this way the ice is broken. In Swansea, one of the New Deal Pathfinder areas, the local Employment Service runs a clothing exchange, making interview suits available to the unemployed: a small but vital contribution to the Welfare to Work effort.

There are many other criticisms of the New Deal: the training and enterprise councils are dreadfully bureaucratic - and the average application form and instruction manual for bidders for New Deal training contracts is reported to be taller than the average unemployed youth. There are genuine concerns that the hardest cases of social exclusion are not being touched. There is a mounting campaign to retarget Government resources on the long-term -

But there is much to commend, not least that the Government has a serious intent. Conservative efforts, from YTS to Job Clubs, were low quality, cheap options, primarily aimed at cutting embarrassing headline unemployment figures and saving the Exchequer money. Labour, which has articulated the link between employment and the state of society, has much deeper motives. It is not bothered about tinkering with unemploy-ment totals. Indeed, it is about to switch to the Labour Force Survey measure that will, at a stroke, raise unemployment by 500,000. It made clear yesterday that the New Deal will not cut the jobless total, but raise the employment count.

Labour wants to save money too. but at least it is prepared to spend a great deal first. And how expensive is the programme really? It has been financed by the windfall levy, pretty painless for the privatised utilities and absolutely painless for the taxpayer: potentially an excel-

Suharto on brink as Indonesia lurches to financial disaster

David Watts

analyses

an economic

crisis that

has global implications

he outlook for Indonesia is grim, with its economy at a virtual standstill and confidence in the rupiah dependent on the much-disputed International Monetary Fund bail-

Imports, particularly of food and raw materials, are expensive and strategic stockpiles of rice stand at dangerously low levels after poor harvests and drought. Overall imports in February were of the order of \$100 million (about £60 million) compared with the monthly average of some \$1.2 billion.

The prospects for serious unrest will rise in July and August when the dry season returns and large numbers of people will face food shortages either through lack of supplies brought about by the drought induced by El Niño or the inability to buy what little will be on the market.

Several large foreign firms, including Price Waterhouse. have provided their staff with open tickets in case of need while others, such as Coca-Cola, are so concerned over the market downturn and security that they are not bringing expatriate staff in.

Other foreign firms are piling in to hunt for bargains. with the great majority of Indonesian companies now technically bankrupt and in search of partners.

Private business letters of credit are unobtainable, so dire is the state of the local banking system, with private debt running at \$74 billion and government reserves estimated at between \$9 billion and \$11 billion or the equivalent of about four months of imports. Inflation is rising fast and some predict it could reach 100 per cent by the end of the year, while unemployment could reach 40 million

by the middle of the year. The big earners, such as oil. natural gas, timber and plywood, remain self-financing or



aire businessmen in a position to finance themselves out of difficulty. Car sales are running at about one third normal levels though ironically higher-end marques such as BMW, which are locally assembled, appear to be holding up reasonably well.

The effects on the regional

economy are not yet fully apparent but already Singapore services are feeling the draught as is the republic's real estate market, which depends heavily on rich Indonesians buying some of the more upmarket apartments. A Singa-pore property auction last week failed to produce a single sale in a market that has always been regarded as providing indone-sia's generals with a home for their pensions.

More important for regional stability perhaps is the threat of large-scale emigration from outlying areas of the country, which is already worrying the Governments of Singapore and Malaysia, not to mention the Australian Government, with Darwin in striking distance across the Timor Sea. In the short term, Japanese and German banks are ready to supply trade finance while Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, arrived at the weekend ready with the

first tranche of bilateral assistance. President Suharto is facing an economic outlook almost as devastating as when he took over from the leftist President Sukarno, whose dissolute lifestyle and erratic policies left the country with inflation

rates of 1,000 per cent. The President does not face that kind of apocalyptic out-look, yet, but the basis for the tance of his authoritarian rule over the last 32 years was that economic expectations were met with annual growth of up to 8 per cent.

The youth of Jakarta, if not the whole of the rest of the country, have grown up with MTV and McDonald's, the availability of which has come to define their expectations of

the Government. In the capital 19 McDonald's have closed but so far the students have taken the Government's advice and confined their pro-

tests to university campuses. For the moment the army and leading opposition and Muslim figures are holding back and allowing the Government a further period to sort things out but the army leadership has let it be known privately that it believes President Suharto must be allowed to leave the scene in his own good time.

That is the way of Javanese rulers and Suharto is a Javanese par excellence and a determined army officer who has always put duty first. He made that clear in his acceptance speech when he emphasised that he would be making the same report back to the nation when he stands for his eighth term of office starting in 2003.

Enigmatically, the commander of strategic forces. General Prabowo, who also banners to be the President's son-in-law, says privately the army will be "with the people". That cool observation illustrates the distance President Suharto's enormous power has allowed him to put between himself and the army. That power has prevented potential rivals from developing and though many blanch at even the possibility of President Subarto remaining in power five years from now,

there is nobody with the

necessary stature ready to take

over the reins. Pride in the staying power of the world's longest-serving leader is part of the hopeless misreading of the situation that has typified the IMF's handling of the Indonesian situation and much of recent activity in the rest of Asia. Perhaps there really was something in the plan for a fund to bail-out troubled Asian economies suggested by the Japanese Government last September. At least Tokyo would not have made some of

that have dogged the IMF's

efforts from the start. From the start the IMF programme seemed geared to erabbing headlines cather than dealing logically with the structural problems of the economy. Thus the first family's Timor car programme was tackled early on. The Timor is imported fully built up from Kia Motors of South Korea and escapes both the luxury import tax and the luxury sales tax while being given all sorts of privileges incountry such as free delivery along the toll motorways around the capital.

These are issues that the IMF needed to deal with but taking on entrenched, public privilege straight away was hardly likely to earn the Suharto family's co-operation in other fields. Nor was it going to produce results even in the medium term. The result was agreement to dismantle the Timor's privileges, which was followed equally quickly by an announcement from the government that the existing stock of 15,000 Timors could be sold under the previous arrangements.

The same approach typified attempts to bring some logic to the banking sector. A computer systems on the astotal of 16 banks were targeted, again largely with first family connections. In reality, Indonesia has more than 200 banks of which perhaps 30 deserve to remain in business. A lower-key approach might have been more effective though that is not to say that President Suharto has not sought to use every trick in the book to dodge the day of reckoning.

The one small trace of hope in an otherwise bleak landscape is the President's apparently genuine contrition in his acceptance speech that mistakes had been made and that he accepted criticism in the hopes of getting things right in the future. And surely no national leader would attempt to face down the world financial community unless

he had something in reserve Rumour has it that President Suharto is ready to bring home some of the billions of family dollars from abroad while the Sultan of Brunei is ready to bail the rupiah out of its problems. If not, the impact of Indonesia's crisis is going to be felt around the world for

BUSINESS LETTERS

BBC producers retain total editorial control of National Lottery shows

From the Controller Editorial Policy, BBC Dear Sir. As the chairman of Littlewoods, James Ross (business letters, March 20) naturally takes a close interest in

the National Lottery and the

BBC's coverage of it. The BBC's position on this is quite clear. We are broadcasting programmes totally under our editorial control, around National Lottery events which have been established by an

Act of Parliament. The BBC's producers' guidelines make it clear that the BBC will not countenance any programming which promotes the sale of any product. The section of the guidelines on the National Lottery explicitly states: "BBC trails and BBC tively promote the purchase of Lottery tickets or Lottery scratchcards, or give details as to where they may be purchased. However, it is acceptable for the mechanism of Lottery draws or games to be

explained on air. BBC programmes have ad-hered closely to these guidelines and will continue to do

Yours faithfully. PHILIP HARDING, Controller Editorial Policy, BBC. Broadcasting House.

Portland Place, London

Companies can cope successfully with the euro

From Frank Tomlin Sir, Laura Sandys's article (March 24) makes more sense than John Redwood's (March 23) regarding companies preparing for the Euro.

Mr Redwood appears unaware that it is standard practice to design computer systems to facilitate ease of maintenance. Data that is liable to change over time is not hard-coded into programs.

Companies whose business is international in scope will already have designed their

sumption that from time to time, there will emerge new countries, new currencies. new denominations of existing currencies.

Companies that have coped perfectly well when these situations arose in the past, and have prospered from new business opportunities in new markets, can be relied on to do so again without lectures from politicians.

Yours faithfully, Frank Tomlin, Billericay, F.ssex CM12 0AN.

Chancellor's timing could not be worse

From Mr Peter Taylor Sir, With reference to bed and breakfast share deals as reported in The Times (March is), I am appalled at the

Chancellor's decision to curtail this long-standing practice with immediate effect - prin-cipally because of the timing: just days before the end of the

tax vear. It certainly smacks of

Labour's attitude towards the savers of Middle England and is downright unfair to those more trusting souls who leave things to the last — amongst whom I did not number. Yours etc. PETER TAYLOR.

22 Redlands Way, Sutton Coldfield. West Midlands,

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Star signings

THE poaching season is in full swing in the City, it seems, even if the football season is mercifully drawing to an end. HSBC has swooped on Lazards for two stars to head up its UK equity management division.

Lazards director Tim Russell, a

Chelsea fanatic, they insist on telling me, will run HSBC Asset Manage ment's £7 billion UK equity desk in 31. June, while his colleague Wade Pollard joins him in a transfer in April. No word from either team on the transfer price, but I am told not to



Crying shame: Frank Dobson's new NHS baby has upset PPP

look for much change from £300,000 a year. Dean Buckley, HSBC chief investment officer, says he's looking for a better performance than Chelsea Unfortunately he insists on extending the footballing metaphor. The trouble with Chelsea is that

they're too volatile - one season they're great, the next they're awful. I hope Tim's performance is going to be more consistent than Chelsea's. We're more of a Manchester United team. " By now he has completely lost me. But he ploughs on. While football transfers take place all year around, the high season for City poachers is March and April, once the bonuses have safely been banked.

Buckley says that the appoint-ments follow the retirement of John Knight, who has been with HSBC for more than ten years. He adds: There is more poaching activity at this time of the year, but as a poacher, I'm not in the habit of hibernating."

☐ FRANK DOBSON, our genial health secretary, has launched a new 24-hour helpline that is designed to avoid trips to the casualty ward. In future you will be able to set those broken legs by telephone, under the guidance of a helpful NHS orderly. Or something like that. Our Frank, whose enthusiastic if at times un-



guided contributions so enlivened various privatisations when he was in opposition, posed in front of a picture of a crying baby for the launch.

In doing so he sparked what the tabloid press calls a tug-of-love bat-tle with PPP, the private healthcare group which claims the child to be its long-lost own. More specifically, the brat whose screaming picture launched its own helpline last year. How could they tell?

Out of the soup

WILLIAM KENDALL, the man who built up the New Covent Garden Soup Company and persuaded us all to part with a couple of quid for a cup of soup, is off only three months after the business was taken over by S Daniels for £23.5 million. Kendall has decided that big company life is not for him and he sensibly intends to spend more time in future on his East Anglia farm.

S Daniels is a food business being rapidly built up by Cyril Freedman, the former Apax venture capitalist who so discreetly stood down from New Covent Garden's board a few weeks before announcing the deal in December. Apax was one of New Covent Garden's early backers, and I cannot believe Freedman is too pleased, even if Kendall is going to hang around until his company can find a new managing director.

THE magazine Punch, prop. Mohamed Al Faved, has published a devastating critique of the lax security arrangements at banks up and down the country. I scan the piece carefully for mention of one of the most serious breaches of financial security of recent years. But there is not a word about the alleged tampering with some safety deposit boxes by employees of Harrods, prop. Mohamed Al Fayed, and his subsequent arrest in connection with the allegations. It seems a curious omission, but I expect there is some good legal reason.

Prior booking

BERTIONI'S HOTEL is the title of a 1983 novel by Jean Nicol, who was

press officer for the Savoy during the War and then went off to a cottage in Cornwall to grow daffodils. (Her husband, Derek Tangye, who died a while back, was a well-known writer). Her book is about a fictitious hotel, based pretty closely on Claridge's, and its purchase by an American buyer. It probably seemed unthinkable then, but times have changed, even at the Savoy. And while we are on the subject, i

see the new trustee of the Savoy Educational Trust can be expected to uphold the financial proprieties. A hotel and catering man, he is called Richard Turpin. Stand and deliver!

MARTIN WALLER



Is nothing sacred? Times have

28 EQUITY PRICES	THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998
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Delta hopes Dutch deal will reverse fortunes

DELTA, the engineering group that is mounting a costly retreat from its struggling cables businesses, aims to beef up its presence in the circuit protection market with a £105 million purchase in The Netherlands.

Announcing a £22.5 million loss for 1997, compared with a £45.6 million pre-tax profit in 1996, Delta tried to comfort investors by revealing that it is in advanced negotiations to buy utility cables, and cut about 870 jobs

Holec Holland, an international switchgear manufacturer. However, the shares fell from 305.5p to 295.5p by mid-afternoon.

The loss in 1997 resulted from a planned sale and asset swap with BICC to try to relieve some of the oversupply in the international ca-

The deal will withdraw Delta from five "commodity" cables and materials businesses, including rubber and

at Delta and BICC together. Alsaid. Turnover fell from £950 million though the move, which requires to £898.4 million. The net loss per government approval, has yet to be completed. Delta took a £49 million hit in the 1997 accounts to reflect the "realistic realisable value" of the businesses being swapped.

Combined with £27.3 million of goodwill previously written off on the businesses, the deal dragged down 1997 performance by £76.3 million. The strength of sterling also cut profits by £12.5 million, the group

share of 29.3p compares with 15.2p net earnings per share in 1996. The final dividend was cut from 14.4p per ordinary share in 1996 to 115p. payable on July 1, making a total of

16p (18.9p) for the year.

The Holec deal would double Delta's market share in circuit protection, one of the four areas Jon Scott-Maxwell, the chief executive, said he wanted to develop.

£20 million debt. About 45 per cent of Holec's sales were exports in 1997, when it made operating profits of £10.4 million on sales of £104 million. Mr Scott-Maxwell pointed to the

acquisition of AMCL last year which made Delta the market leader for the supply of electrolytic manga-nese dioxide for dry cell batteries as evidence that the reshaping of the group around the four chosen areas

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Textiles abandons plans for buyout

ALLIED TEXTILES, the West Yorkshire clothmaker, is poised to shake up its operations and close some businesses after plans for a management buyout were scrapped yesterday. After the withdrawal of the management's offer, Allied shares dropped 25p, to 156p, back to the pre-bid level.

Allied were approached by venture capitalists backing a possible buyout in January. City analysts do not believe that Allied will be the target of any more bids in the near future and the management said that it hopes to stimulate profits internally. The group said that measures to revive the ailing business will be disclosed at Allied's annual shareholders meeting next Tuesday. Peter Honeysett, the chairman, said: "If businesses don't produce, the management have to do something about it. They might sell or close sectors."

IRG reduces losses

INDEPENDENT RADIO GROUP, the local commercial radio operator, reported reduced pre-tax losses of £2.8 million (£3 million loss). Losses per share fell from 25.7p to 15.5p, while sales rose from £2.3 million to £3.6 million. The company said it planned to expand through organic expansion, acquisitions and by winning new licences. It added: "The board would hope that, as the year progresses, the market capitalisation of the company will reflect the underlying value of its assets."

Rap hit by excess stock

SHARES in Rap, the distributor, fell from 36½ p to 21½ p after the group said its full-year results to December 31 may be significantly below market expectations because of excess stock. Rap also said that problems at its Burnley site may lead to additional provisions being made in the current financial year. Rap said it has commenced a review of the accounting systems and of the level of stock provisions at Burnley. Rap said a further announcement will be made shortly.

Quality performance

SHARES of Quality Software Products Holdings rose 472p to 522's p yesterday after the company reported a recovery in pre-tax profits to £2.7 million in 1997, up from just £28,000 in the previous 12 months. Earnings rose to 20.2p a share, from 0.2p. Despite the recovery there is again no dividend. The company said that operating profits more than trebled to £3.5 million from £900,000 on turnover that rose from £25.4

Datrontech payout held

DATRONTECH GROUP, the computer components company, is holding the total dividend for 1997 at 6.3p a share after pre-tax profits fell to £6.3 million from £8.1 million. Basic earnings fell to 10.4p a share from 15.3p. The company ended the year with net debt of £7.2 million, reflecting the £7.8 million acquisition of ICP in November, compared with net cash of £2 million at the end of 1996. Gearing is set to rise as a result of deferred purchase consideration. The final dividend is 4.2p.

Rutland Trust advances

RUTLAND TRUST, the financial group, raised profits before tax and exceptionals from £12.2 million to £16.3 million in the year to December 31. In addition, the group netted a £31 million profit on the £112 million sale of Thamesport in February. Rutland said yesterday it would pay a 3p a share exceptional interim dividend in 1998. The total dividend for 1997 will be increased from 1.4p to 1.7p after a final dividend up from 1p to 1.25p out of earnings up from 3.91p to 4.42p.

Dagenham accelerates

DAGENHAM MOTORS, Britain's largest Ford dealer, raised pre-tax profits 21 per cent to £6.17 million on sales up 2 per cent to £297.6 million. Earnings rose 36 per cent to 18.5p after share buybacks and lower tax charges. The total dividend for the year rises from 7.7p to 8.75p. David Philip, the chairman, said: "The year has started extremely well, with sales and profits for the first two months ahead of budget and the corresponding period last year." The shares rose 8p to 12912p.

Britannic advance boosts share price

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

SHARES in Britannic Assurance rose more than 3 per cent to £13.56 yesterday after the company unveiled better than expected profits, an investment return of 20 per cent net on shareholders' funds, and a 20 per cent increase in the dividend for the full year.

The dividend increase was boosted by the transfer of part of the company's inherited estate — sometimes referred to as "orphan assets" - worth £1 billion in total.

Brian Shaw, chief executive, said he remained "open-minded" on consolidation in the industry and the possibility of an acquisition or merger in the life assurance sector.

Speculation has linked Britannic to London & Manchester. a rival insurer, but analysts believe that Britannic is just as likely to make a bid for a smaller life insurer such as Royal Liver, Wesleyan, Liverpool Victoria or CIS.

However, Mr Shaw declined to say whether he had held merger or acquisition talks and said he remained focused on developing the core lifeassurance business. He also dismissed rumours that the company could be the target of a bid from a bank such as Alliance & Leicester. "We are totally focused on remaining ity this month for failing to independent, he said. review its pensions mis-selling

rannic reported a £174.3 million pre-tax operating profit for the year to December 31, compared with a restated £81.9 million for the previous year. The final dividend was 23.6p, making a 20 per cent

total increase in the full year. The return on shareholders' retained capital was 20.2 per cent net of tax, representing £202.1 million. About 80 per

cent of the investment portfolio is in equities.

Britannic has just completed a restructuring of its workforce, which led to about £20 million of annualised cost savings during the year. Mr Shaw said. He predicted that a further £5 million saving will come through this year.

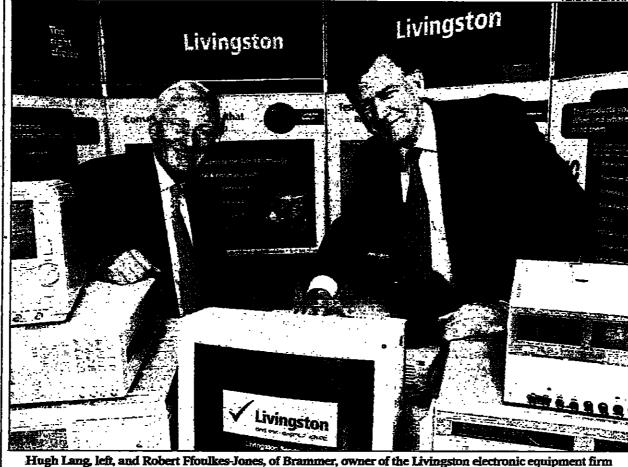
The company had to make 800 redundancies, 250 of which came from the head office, although a provision for the job losses was made in last year's results.

On pension mis-selling, Mr Shaw said the company was "on target" to meet its end of June deadline to clear its 14,500 priority cases.

He said the company had not calculated how many nonpriority cases it had, after the decision earlier this month by the Personal Investment Authority and the Financial Services Authority to launch a second phase of the pension mis-selling review.

Mr Shaw said that, until the number of non-priority cases was known, it was not clear whether Britannic would increase its current £150 million provision for pension misselling. The company was fined a record £525,000 by the Personal Investment Author-

The Britannic brand was relaunched in January and the company is planning a number of new products including a healthcare cash plan and a deposit account. The Sovereign deposit account will be available from the middle of the year in an attempt to persuade people with maturing life insurance policies to keep their money with Britannic.



Husband and wife earn £58m in Spandex sale

SPANDEX, the manufacturer of equipment for the signmaking industry and whose customers include the Williams Formula One team. has agreed to a £109.2 million takeover bid by Gerber Scientific, an American company. Charles Dobson, the chair-

man of Spandex, and his wife Mary, also a director, will receive £57.9 million. Gerber, which started. distribution agreement with Spandex in 1983 is offering 325p for each ordinary share, a 44.4 per cent premium to the stock market price the day before the bid approach was made public. In addition, Spandex shareholders will receive the 2.5p a share final

dividend. Gerber is also offering 325p for each Spandex A share,

which are largely held by the Dobson family. An extraordinary meeting will be held to alter the company's articles of association, which currently prohibit the transfer of A



shares other than by existing holders to members of their families or to family

Announcing the agreed bid, Mr Dobson said: "We have a longstanding business rela-tionship which is now set to prosper further. Together, we will benefit from the closer alignment of Gerber's skills as inventive manufacturer those of Spandex as a Spandex, founded in 1976,

marketer and distributor." operates in 13 European countries. It recently acquired distribution companies in the US

Earlier this month Spandex reported a decline in 1997 pretax profits to £9 million, from E9.9 million in 1996, on turn-over that rose slightly to £101.3 million from £98.5 million.

Brammer profits rise 10%

SHARES in Brammer, the industrial services group, rose from 563p to 5882p after the company disclosed a 10 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £27.8 million, for the year to December 31 on sales up 13 per cent, to £223 million

(George Sivell writes). Earnings per share rose 15 per cent, to 46.1p, out of which the year's dividend rises from 16p to 17.2p after payment of an 11.6p final dividend.

Hugh Lang, chairman, and Robert Floulkes-Jones, chief executive, say that Brammer expects profits for the first quarter of 1998 to be "slightly ahead" of the corresponding period last year, "with Europe continuing to do well while business in Britain remains

Mr Lang said: "We have many new initiatives under way and a number of important

informative:

With effect from 1 April 1998:

The fee for returning cheques, standing orders and direct debits unpaid, due to the lack of funds or available overdraft will be increased from £30 to £35 per item.

The Excess Overdraft Fee will be increased from £7.50 to £8.50.

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Aggregate exceeds cost savings target

the international quarry and aggregates group formed when Bardon Group bought Camas in May 1997, said yesterday that targeted cost savings of £10 million were comfortably exceeded in 1997 and that the integration of the two companies was complete. Financial results for 1997 showed pre-tax profits of E45.4 million (£23.4 million). which were in line with analysts' forecasts. The share price remained firm at 67p. Aggregate announced a good

AGGREGATE Industries,

was not quite as confident about the second half. Peter Tom, chief executive, said: "The outlook suggests

start to 1998 but said that it

that in the UK the first half should see a good level of activity, although there is less certainty concering the sec-ond. In the US we have seen the continuation of a good

level of growth and the out-

look remains favourable." The company said that in the US, where it is the tenth largest aggregates producer and the seventh largest readymixed concrete operator, it will benefit from a significant increase in the US Government's projected spending on infrastructure projects.

Earnings per share were 2.9p (2.4p). There is a final dividend of 1.2p a share, making an unchanged total of 2p for the year.

Daniels chilled foods grow 20%

By PAUL DURMAN

S DANIELS, the ambitious food group that recently bought the fast-growing New Covent Garden Soup Company (NCGS), believes it can double its size in five years without making any more

Cyril Freedman, the chairman, said sales of chilled fresh food were growing at 20 per cent a year. This benefits both NCGS and Johnson's, the Daniels company that sup-plies orange juice and fruit salads to sandwich shops. Daniels also expects further benefits from integrating the six acquisitions it made last

The value of Daniels has grown from about £2.7 million

to more than £60 million since Mr Freedman and Michael Mills, the managing director took control in May 1995. Mr Freedman hopes to create a £250 million company within five years.

In 1997, the group's pre-tax profits more than trebled to E2.4 million. Almost half the £2.6 million of operating profits came from acquired businesses. Although Daniels greatly expanded its share base last year, earnings per share rose by 88 per cent to 3.17p a share. A second interim dividend of 0.3p doubles the payout to 0.5p a share.

After a sharp jump on Monday, shares in Daniels closed 7½p lower at 57½p.



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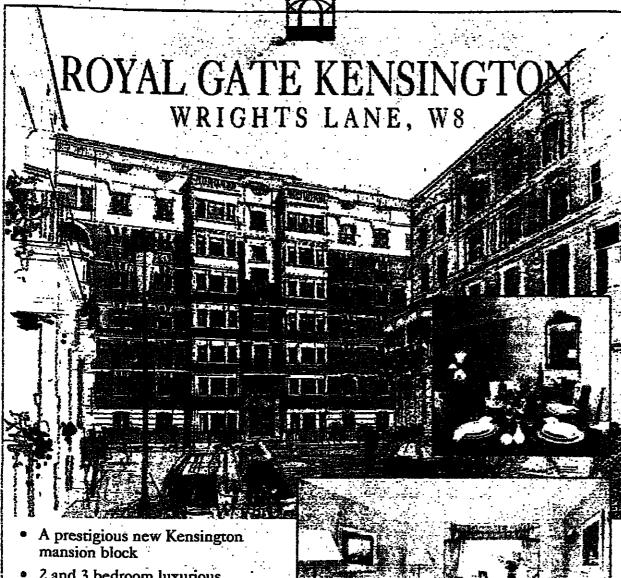
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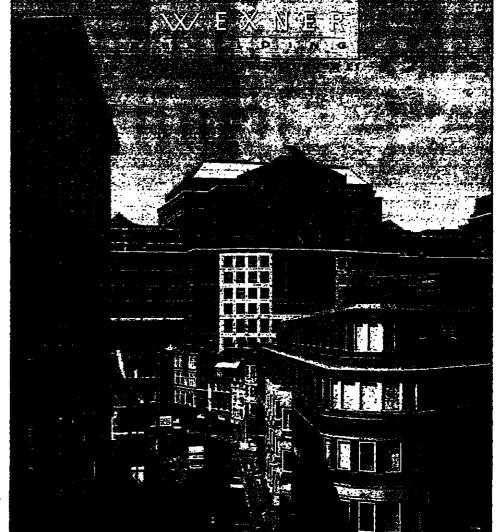
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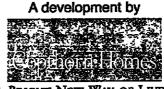


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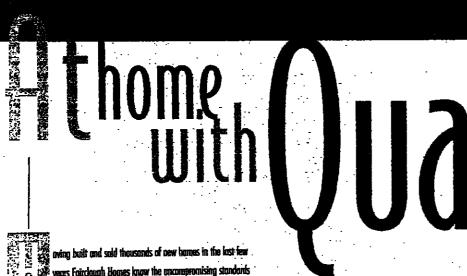
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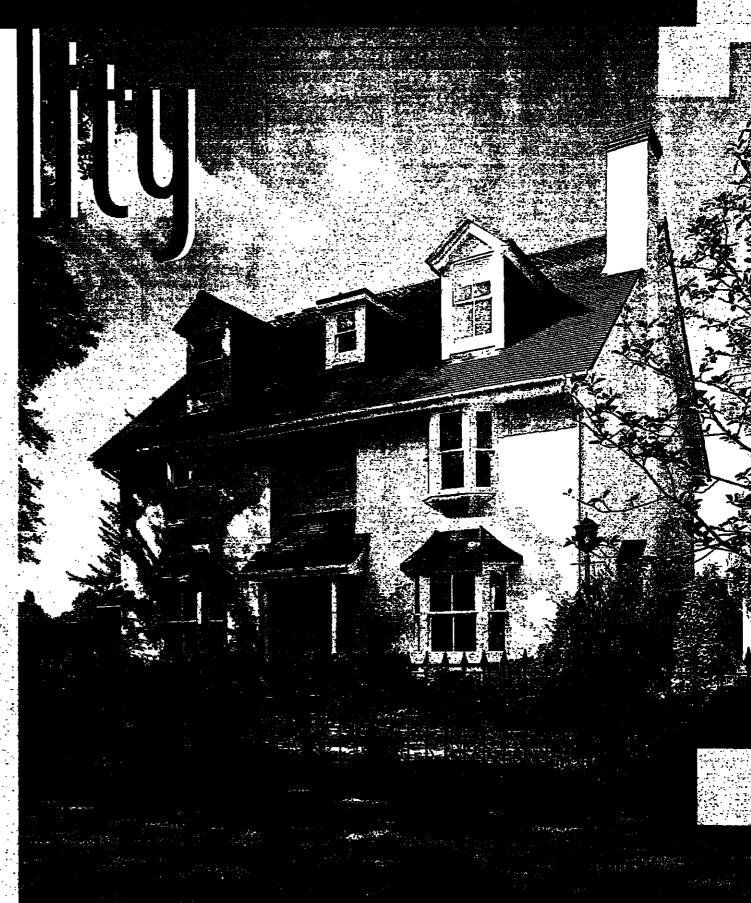
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ordon Brown may claim that only 2 per cent of home-owners will be affected by stamp duty changes. but homeowners in London and the Home Counties are worried that the 2 per cent may be them.

The latest figures from the upmarket agent Knight Frank show that the price of a fivebedroom farmhouse in the shires can reach £950,000 -well over the £500,000 upper threshold. The Chancellor's changes mean that stamp duty is now levied at 2 per cent (up from 1.5 per cent) on houses costing £250,000 or more, and at 3 per cent (up from 2 per cent) on transactions from

£500,000. Recent figures from the Inland Revenue suggest that only 2 per cent of last year's worth £250,000 or above.

But Steve Mullin, the head of research at Knight Frank. says: "On Budget day Gordon Brown said that 98 per cent of

An unfair tax on the South of England?

niently overlooked is the geo-graphical distribution of the You do not need to live in a affected 2 per cent. They are almost entirely in London and mansion to be hit by the increases southeast England. The effect of stamp duty will be hugely - merely an ordinary house in a disproportionate. You could say that it is a reasonably desirable location' back-door tax on the rich in

southern England. By far the bulk of affected properties will be in the Home Counties and property on its books -- will on London. In Yorkshire, for average cost more than E500,000 in Berkshire, Surrey, instance, these changes are frankly irrelevant. It's surpris-Hampshire. Buckinghamshire. Northamptonshire, ing if a property makes a quarter of a million there." Sussex, Oxfordshire, Kent, Gloucestershire, Dorset. Knight Frank's figures show that a five-bedroom farm-Cheshire, Wiltshire, Somerset, house with five acres, garag-ing and a barn — a typical Leicestershire and Warwick-

Londoners who live in the city's nine dearest boroughs will also suffer disproportion-ately from the additional tax. Land Registry figures from the last quarter of 1997 show that while a detached house in Lewisham may typically letch barely £120,000, even a ter-

than £355,000.

In mine of London's 33 boroughs — Barking and Dagenham, Camden, Westminster, Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham. Haringey, Mer-ton, Richmond and Wands-worth — detached houses are worth more than £250,000.

You do not need to live in a mansion to be hit by the duty increases — merely an ordi-nary house in a reasonably desirable location.

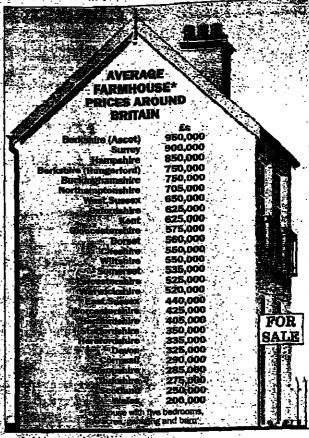
There may be ways around the tax. Those struggling to complete last week in time for Monday's midnight deadline discussed the possibility of buyer and vendor sharing the

extra burden. Stories circulated of huyers threatening to abandon transactions that had run out of time unless the asking price was reduced.

Several weeks before the Budget, a buyer made an offer on a two-bedroom, fifth-floor flat in the West End of Lon-don, on sale for £330,000 with the agent Winkworth. The buyer wanted a two-week exchange, but the vendor's solicitors delayed. The buyer insisted that the price was re-duced after Monday.

In Chelsea, a buyer reduced his offer on a four-bedroom, four-storey townhouse from £710,000 to £701,500. The buyer says: The purchase haid been near completion for three weeks when the Chancelfor got to his feet. It was an unpalarable happening which changed the equation." The vendor, who had already paid for a new house in the country, had little choice but to agree.

Some experts say that this was the first in a series of planned stamp duty rises. Buyers — and sellers -





Paint, paper, pelmets — and prima donnas

or those interested in interiors, today is the final day of the Chelsea Harbour spring week design fair. Here you will find 60 international showrooms and the latest textures, shapes and colours — a showcase of the

best of interior design work. To the outsider, the world of swags and pelmets is full of glamour. But one designer is hanging up her paintbrush. Elaine Lassman, who is behind some of London's grandest interiors, says: "The interior design field is similar to the world of fashion. They both appear glamorous, but the reality is often different."

Mrs Lassman has worked for George Klein, the American property developer, who is involved in some of the largest new skyscrapers in New York, decorating his flat in Eaton Square: and for various South-East Asian clients such as Albert Hong, a businessman from Kuala Lumpur, Maiaysia. She redecorated his Regent's Park penthouse and has also decorated show houses for the

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in Chester Square.

Working for these people, she says, was a joy. But she adds: "Behind the scenes, the enormous demands, stress and pressure of working for some clients and often having to liaise with incompatible professionals represents the other, less glamorous side, and it is all of this which has finally led me to quit."

Mrs Lassman started her interior design career by accident. In 1977 she married Anthony Lassman, then a newly qualified member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Their new home became her first interior design project. They had bought a small, charming but dilapidated house in 1976. On a limited budget, Mrs Lassman restored it. Ideal Home magazine made the project a four-page feature.

The turning point in her career came in 1982 when her estate agent husband was marketing a block of flats where several interior decorators were working on various

FULHAM

Interior designer

Elaine

Lassman

(right) tells

Rachel Kelly

why she is quitting

show apartments. A Greek businessman was unim-pressed and the wife of one of developers persuaded Mrs Lassman to undertake the interior design of the businessman's flat. "In contrast to the overstated style that was prevalent in London in the early Eighties," she says. "I used a restrained, pared-down look and a neu-

tral palette. Four other commissions in the same building followed shortly." But, as Mrs Lassman now

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA



fraught. "Some clients are unclear in their brief and rarely know precisely what they want," she explains. Similarly, they are invariably reluctant to indicate a budget, and are then surprised to learn of the costs.

"Often, you are engaged because the client empathises with your style and has chosen you over and above the competing designers. But then they want to compromise this by imposing their

original concept then end up wondering why they have not achieved what they originally set out to commission. "Once, if a client agreed to a priced contract, securing payment was not a problem. Today, this is not always the case. Overseas clients invari-

ably engage solicitors, who want to alter our standard forms of contracts and impose unworkable conditions. "Some clients invariably consider they have bought you once they have signed you up on a project. They have little regard for the designer's personal life and feel they have the divine right

to access you at all times." Bill Bennette is an interior designer who specialises in luxury residential work. He recognises the symptoms that have prompted Mrs Lass-man's decision to quit. "It is a stressful job," he says. "Spoilt rich people don't like to be told no: when the curtains are late in arriving, they don't want to hear excuses."

Christine Searle, of the

KENT

Interior Decorators and Designers Association, says: The most common problem is when the interior decorator and client stop talking to each other, due to a misunderstanding or delay."

The association, she says, offers free advice to match clients to the designer most suited to them the best way to avoid

Henrietta Spencer-Chur chill, one of Britain's leading interior designers, whose work is to be found in the Terf Club in London, believes that an interior designer can point people in the ght; direction. "A flexible addiprofessional two-way relationship is needed." she says, "but there is no set way of working. Ultimately, how-ever, it is the client who has to live with the result."

● Additional research by George Pendle.

● The Chelsea Harbour Design Fair, 108 The Chambers, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10

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	Freshid prop with p/p for real-	WEST END New 1st fir 2 bed 2 recep fit high cells, wood firs 6275,000 0171 321 0460 (T)	
CLAPHAM SW4 Lgs Vict maison- etta, off Abbeyville, 3 bod, 2 receps, fully modernised, fitted lefte, GCH, Original fireplaces.	dential conversion close to Holborn and Russell Sq. Frank Harris & Co. 0171 387 0077	1275,000 0171 321 0460 (1)	STOCK PAGE STOCK
lete. GCH, Original fireplaces. Gdn. F/H, planning approved for ige left conv. £198,000.	M COMMENTS WITH I AND THE PA	CITY DOCKLANDS &	BARBICAN AREA Studio Flat GF, ar tube,
0171 735 0082/0973 429044.	early 18th century street. Close to Gray's Inn £139,500, Prank Harris & Co, 0171 387 0077	EAST	S67,500 L/E BARBICAN
GRAMMSON RD, SW11. Victorian family house with 4 double bedrooms & new Artenbear breakfast rangel 15,000. Wood-			Two had 6th ft flat, £169,000 L/H
hand Payme 0171 223 2252	BRIGHT 4ch floor, 2 bd flut in Mortimer Street, W1 Lift, Lease 39 ys. Price £185,000 Tele- phone: 0171 499 6692	RIVERSIDE	CATHEDRAL LODGE, ECI One bed sportment is II, £155,000 L/H
SWIS 3 bed 2 bath fint, off street parking, £155,000 L/EL Cooper Duffy Tab 0161 785 2229.	CLERKENWELL EC1. Duplez shell apert. Releat St. 6265K. Good space, beleany. Long lease. New Befurb. Hamilton Brooks 0171	Laxery 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom flat in well established block. South	0171 251 4171
SW8 FF 1 bed gdm flat, immed sale, Cash buyer penf. £92,000cmc.01483 504099	space, balcony, Long lease, New Refurb, Hamilton Brooks 0171 638 2153,	theing 1st floor with baleuny, stranger river views, Underground	
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CITY & WEST END	6162,000 Frank Barris & Co 0171 387 0077.		ALLEYS HEAVE, SECT. SECURING OF prescriptions resed closes to Dai with Village der. Stanfly home Comparising 5 GMs; bads, 3 hy mouple, 2 halls, stratege, can, 100° garden FM school, Chalefor, lay and FM school, Chalefor, Folkand & Haypeand O151 299 4499.
BANGCEDS LOFTS SEI Immeru- inte 5th floor one bed appt	PROPERTIES OF MAYFAIR - Sales	CROPERT)	
iste 5th floor one bed appt with RiverCity views within practicious block to South of City. Fortenge, Lift. Parking. L/h £205,000 a.c. Sole Agents	PROPERTIES OF MAYFAM: - Sales & investments also short, long rem regral in Enightshridge/ Kentington/Chelses/Belguivia Tel: 0171 355 1256.	AISON'S	HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON
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0171 263 4414.	ST JAMES SWI Small sales of lex tits in James St hik Studies	CITY MERCHAN, DECORAGE EM. Perform 3 tots 1 tots (2 mount 2	(days) 359 2995 (eres/ white)
BLOOMSSURY WC1 Ringmount Gerdens. have grad for 2 bed fit in lappening Victorian mana- bilt close to Tottunban Court fit and UCL Life porter. Lease 65 ym E170,000, Pranis Hauris A. co. 0121 327 0077	ths in Jerseya St hik. Studies £165,000 = 190,000. 1 Bd £225,000 = 28 £435,000. Possk Earnis & Co, 0171 387 0077	Indigenous Land, portungita for paper Secure of Published - Different Secure of	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
8d and U.C.I. Lift, porter Lesso 65 yrs £170,000. Presk Hazris	ST JAMPS SK New 2 had no	H THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF	
LOOMSHRY WCI Doughty Maris Charming period house of charmons 3 floors, Roof gin.	wood firs. lift, adj park & tube £266,000, 0171 321 0460 (T).	Produce 2 tota, 2 bots, lays acquire and real towars. How over fast lade but. Public, famous buildes: 24 lays systems in smalls, 1235,000	ENNISMORE
Germaniant studio. F/M. Offers	ST JAMES'S New return F/H has on 6 firm 4 bods, 4 recups. F/H E1,095,000 0171 321 0460 (T)]] disease a moster (52070)]]	GARDENS 29 year lease, i 50044 ft. Cassed,
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ELOQUESBURY WC1 Charming 2 hedmalsonetrs late Georgian Grade II prop. Private Garden Lageshold 5299,000 Frank	CITY DOCKLANDS &		points decreing vorus and bilance, second (b) bilance, closiqueme. Rangly
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BLOOMSBURY WC1 2 bet flat on 3rd fir Bdw hile close to Russell 5g & Kinge X £145,000. Prank Shoris & Co, 0171 387 0077	COMMERCIAL RD Grade 2, 4 storey has, 4 beds, princh, 50ft gdn, £176,996, 0181 3061012	TEL: 0171 580 0222	Tel: 0408 255 534 or 0171 529 4636 Weekslaps
Rhoats & Co, 0171 387 0077	gdn, £176,995. 0181 3051012	<u> </u>	
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	UNER	CAMPOL COMPONIES	DESIGNER 3 bedroom first, 2nd floor manufact house, IF mod-
EXCH	ANGE F	LACE	£174,000, Tak 9121,731 5926
AN DASIS I	N THE CITY		PETERSONOUGH ESTATE 5W6 PETER ATTRACTIVE Typical longitude 4 bed/2 beth house, 2
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BARBICAN AREA Studio Flat GF, ar tube, £67,500 L/H	FULHAM	CHELSEA EMBANGMENT, SW2. Large I bed flat in good build- ing, diose to river & views. £280,000. 0171 373 9537
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merigious roed ciose to Dui- ich Village det Armily home. Semprising 5 this beds, 3 hg cups, 2 baths, shiftiner, irga all, gazage, osp. 100° gazden.	Personi hare. Very good dee ender. Tree Exact quart retree XIII reep. S. facing parin, £189,950. Neverly build development of two	NERWAY SO, 3w5. Preshold house 3 floors, 2 bads, rec, cal: floors, highest ret, pose roof terr. £275,000. 0171 373 9837
H 6520,000. Kinleigh Folkand Haysand 0181 299 4499.	majoranties graced Floor: 2 hed, 2 hagh + patin. lat x 2nd floor: 3 hed, 2 bath + roof terrace + off street parties; High spec to tack Major	TOWN HOUSE
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(Casquabury) Ground floor 1 sirts, streng m., £23, 80 yrs. 135,000, Tel: 0171 359 0088 ays) 359 3995 (great/wkinds).	period into with 34th resp. 17th latch. 2 15th pains, Offices as extens of £210,000. 2 Sible heat period cottage in parity	Completely redecorated and recurpeted throughout, full vacant position. Lease soprox 75 years, £299,950.
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top bath & desire more, chrome. S

learly paids + cost service. 12:5,000. Redurbished 4 bed, 3 birth, pierted hen. 348 resp. Utility room, leacher with gian mobied extremition to sade de gant. High spec to malende wrond floors, smaje leachers, grante where lear + spinlaments, carpeted. Parte, 1775,000. Special 4 fight 2 bed, 2 limits, jus de 2 lied toest authorited lackhen overdocking 188 to 168 resp. Newly infantished. Entremely high specifications. Quart location, 19 mae. CH5500. State of Freefield.	BRAMHAM GARDENS SW5 Exceptional light, siry, family flat with welcome atmosphere on 4th floor (I of newly restored block: coveted, quiet, garden square, immingulately modernised. Large recept with magnificent views or communal gardens, frencommand gardens, frencommunal gardens, frencommunications and the second sec
KENSINGTON & CHELSEA	windows outo ornament balcoty, 4 double bedroot 2 large bathrooms, spacio kitchen/fining with Aga. 9 years. S.O.P. Low S/C.
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reption histhen, patio gar- a, 6527,000. No chain. Germa- in beyon, no agents. Ring- lar 6796 0171 731 7460. T Money TON SING Causer at selons 1 bed Cart, 2nd Oz. ac. £1205,0181 741 2224 t	LONDON PROPERTY	W-A-ELLIS
ZONE A	LASKA	ONSLOW GARDENS, SW7 Third floor flat, (no lift), overlooking and use of concentral gardens, 2 bot, back,
TOWER BRID		CADOGAN GARDENS, SW3
	ULLY FITTED	UNIMODERNISED, which there for wash life, (1127 or 8/104 or m). Use of galon, res, Carvanier, 18 or ft recent, sep. w.e. 25 yes. \$235,000
	RTMENTS 200 sq. feet £225,000	LITTLE BOLTONS, SW10 UNGODERNISED, top two floats of semi-detached feature, suppress. 1500 og h).

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BRAMHAM GARDENS SW5	leafit missourchita facous, in change process, 2 double he topous, small straff, bathroom shower from hallocher (CSC2) working fleepisce, 1376 or 1 working fleepisce, 1276 or 1 when public too. Leave fly ground state (COI ps. 2257 500 6850 51.881.00/0181 876 200
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CHELSEA	COTSWOLDS	estretury, Lounge, Eksing Room est, Separate 2 Bedroom Statisticany house its led by 3 our port 3 Acres with outbuild- ings, Passariel Paddoor, 1 wil-
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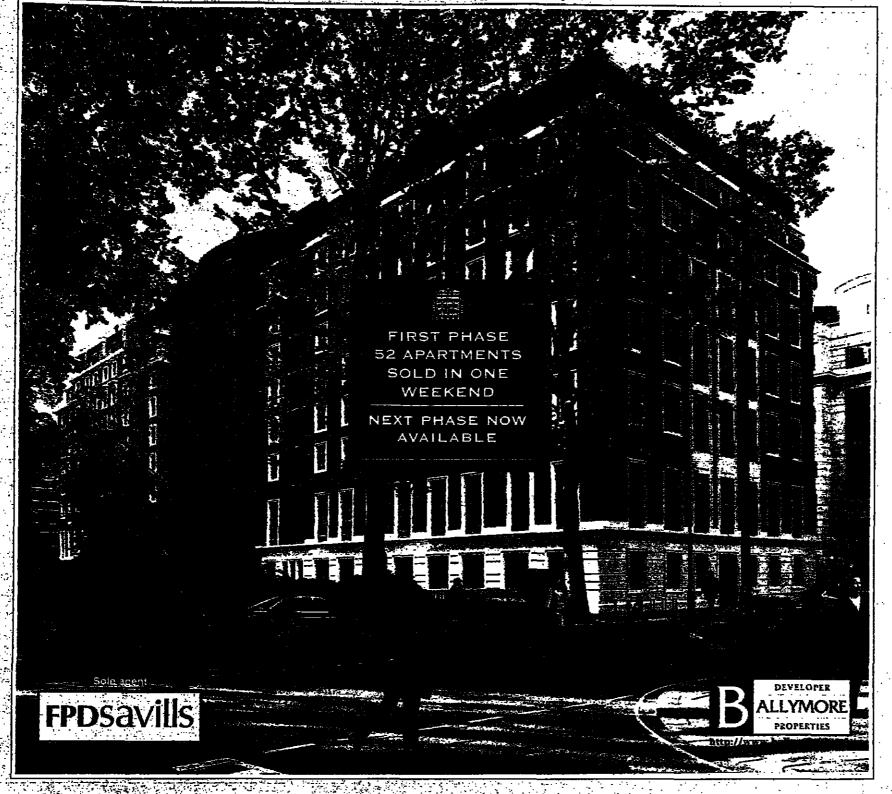


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Deliberate exclusion can justify forcible re-entry

Khazanchi and Another v Faircharm Investments Ltd and Others McLeod v Butterwick

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith. Lord Justice Morritt and Lord

[Judgment March 17] A bailiff distraining for rent or a sheriff executing a writ of fieri facias was not entitled forcibly to re-enter a dwelling-house in which goods were kept, for the purpose of removing them for sale, if the occupant had no knowledge of an intended visit and had locked the premises in the ordinary way and gone about his normal business.

The Court of Appeal so stated ing appeals by the plaintiff s. Deepak Kulmar tenants. Kliazanchi and Manjit Singh Rattu, from the decision of Judge Cox in Uxbridge County Court (sitting at Lambeth) on March 24, 1947, and by the plaintiff. Sally McLend. from the decision of Judge Roger Cooke sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division (The Times March 12, 1996; [1996] i

In the Khazanchi case, the third defendant bailiffs. Cuthbert and Kingsley, a firm, seeking to disbehalf of the first and second defendants. Faircharm Investments Ltd and Penway Ltd. for rent arrears, had entered the tenants and entered into a walking possession agreement with them which entitled him to remove the goods at any time after the specified date for payment. When the arrears were not paid the bailiff returned for the purpose of removing the goods. The premises were locked and there was no one

The bailiffs, with the assistance of a locksmith and removal men, removed the lock, took the goods and resecured the premises, leaving the new key with the care-takers. In proceedings brought by the tenants. Judge Cox decided that the bailiffs were entitled to act as they had and dismissed the tenants' claim for damages.

in the McLeod case the sheriff, Anthony James Butterwick, entered the home of the plaintiff with her consent for the purpose of executing a writ of fieri facias. He

P v P (Diplomatic immunity:

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the

Rolls, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss

The granting of a declaration

under section 8 of the Child

Abduction and Custody Act 1985

that a child had been wrongfully

court dealing with Hague Conven-tion proceedings for the child's

ed from the United King dom would be contrary to the interests of that child if it would not

and Lord Justice Simon Brown

Jurisdiction)

Judgment March III

a walking possession agreement. Interpleader proceedings followed. Shortly after those proceedings were concluded, the sheriff, without prior notice, returned to the plaintiff's home for the purpose of removing the goods for sale. The plaintiff was out at work and there

The sheriff, with the assistance of a locksmith and removal men. removed the lock and goods and resecured the premises leaving a key to the new lock for the plaintiff to collect on her return.

The plaintiff sued the sheriff for damages and an injunction. Her injunction to restrain the sheriff rom selling her goods or entering her home without her consent was refused by Judge Cooke on the ground, inter alia, that the sheriff s entitled to act as he did.

In Khanzanchi, Mr Kenneth Hamer for the plaintiff tenants; Mr Andrew Westwood for the first and second defendance the third and were not represented. In McLeod, Ms Sally McLeod in

for the defendant sheriff. LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that the appeals raised a common question as to the powers

of a bailiff distraining for rent or a sheriff executing a writ of fieri facias forcibly to re-enter the premises in which the relevant goods were kept for the purpose of removing them for sale. Distress for rent

The tenants submitted that the walking possession agreement did not authorise the bailiff to use force at any time and the common law the circumstances of the case.

It was not disputed that in the case of distress for rent, whatever the nature of the premises, the ial entry must be peaceable and with the consent of the tenant. Once the initial entry had been achieved and the goods impounded then they were in the

If thereafter the distrainer was forcibly ejected or having left the premises for a temporary purpose his return was deliberately barred by the tenant then he might re-

return but would delay those

dismissing an appeal by the mother against the decision of Sir

Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division (The Times

March 2 that the court had no

jurisdiction over her application

for a declaration under section 8 of

the 1985 Act that the removal of

United States diplomat, was a wrongful removal within the

Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

THE

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The Court of Appeal so held in

proceedings.

ber of cases to which the court was referred. His Lordship rejected the principal submission for the bailiff that after impounding he had at com-mon law an unconditional right to re-enter by force the premis where the goods were impounded.

Such a right would be inconsistent with the view that those premises constituted the pound for there had never been any sugges-tion that a landlord or his bailiff

Moreover to recognise a right of forcible re-entry in all circum-stances would be inconsistent with the provisions of the Law of Distress Act 1737, Section 7 conferred a right of forcible entry in the case of goods fraudulently oncealed but section 10 made no imilar provision when providing for the first time that goods might be impounded on the tenant's

If it had been clearly established

before that Act was passed that there was a right of forcible reentry in all cases the omission might have been explicable, but it was not, and could not have been, for previously the goods could not be impounded on private property. His Lordship did not doubt that, subject to any question of duress, a tenant might lawfully agree that the bailiff might re-enter by force. But in his Lordship's view it was not a right conferred by the common law in the absence of such

In McLeod Judge Cooke was dealing with a the case of a sheriff executing a writ of fieri facias, not a bailiff levying distress. But his decision and the reason-

ing behind it were adopted by Judge Cox and applied to the case of the bailiff levying a distress. volved an extension of the principle and of the existing authorities on the circumstances in which a bailiff might re-enter by force which his Lordship was unable to

If no notice had been given by the bailiff of his intention to reenter and the only circumstance was that the outer door was locked, that was insufficient to justify a

The President had held, on a

preliminary issue, that the re-

moval of the children at the end of

a diplomatic posting was not covered by diplomatic immunity.

However, state immunity pre-

cluded the court from exercising

acting in compliance with a direct

left with the children. Mr Peter Duffy, QC and Mr

Christopher Greenwood for the

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incrible expulsion or forcible exclusion was that given by the Privy Council in Aga Kurboolie Mohamed v The Queen ((1843) 4 Maa PC 239).

If that case truly expressed the rationale for the circumstances in which a forcible re-entry was justified then the mere fact that the door was locked could not suffice. It was not wrong for a tenant, without more, to lock the door to the demised premises whether they were domestic or commercial. If he knew that the bailiff was seeking to re-enter but locked or left the door locked to exclude him

then the tenant committed a wrong for he was wilfully obstructing the right of the bailiff to possession of But if he did not know of the hailiff's intended re-entry at any particular time then to leave his door locked and to absent himself door locked and to absent himself without his normal affairs was his

As the Privy Council had indicated, if the person in possession knew the purpose of the bailiff's visit then there was no need to give further notice of it. But that was no reason for concluding that where the tenant did not know of the bailiff's intention to re-enter at a particular time and left his door ocked the bailiff might break in. His Lordship's conclusion was that a bailiff was not entitled to reenter by force except where, having gained entry peaceably, he was expelled by force or he had been

deliberately excluded by the What amounted to deliberate dusion must be recognised on a case-by-case basis. It would include cases where the tenant knowing of the intended visit deliberately tocked the door and went away or when invited to admit the bailiff refused to do so.

But it did not include the case of a tenant who had no knowledge of any particular time and locked his premises in the ordinary way and vent about his business as normal. it was necessary to construe the against that common law background. The bailiff relied on the

use of the unqualified words "at

any time" submitting that they

was not dependent of re-entry was

THE MASTER OF THE

ROLLS said that the case raised

difficult and interesting issues.

However, the court was mindful of

the fact that there were two

children involved whose future

The court had considered

be achieved by hearing the appeal or whether it would make the

His Lordship was satisfied that a

situation more complex:

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had to be determined.

1980, set out in Schedule I to the David Lloyd Jones as amicus

tenant or the presence of other circumstances sufficient to justify a forcible re-entry. His Lordship did not accept that ibmission. If such a power were intended it would need to be

expressed in plain terms. Execution of a writ of fieri facias Following the initial entry and Following the initial casty aus-seizure, the rights of the sheriff were very similar to those of the bailiff. He might remain in pos-session of them without any phys-ical presence. That was normally; ical presence. That was norm but not necessarily evidenced by a

Thus, unless he had abandoned the goods, which was a question of fact, he might re-enter in order to remove the goods for the purposes of sale. As in the case of the bailiff distraining for rent the question was whether the sheriff might forcibly re-enter and, if so, in what

Miss McLeod pointed out that she had refused to sign a walking possession agreement and asked where was the authority entitling the sheriff forcibly to re-enter her

Mr Tillen submitted that if a sheriff might use force to get the goods out, as indicated in Pugh v Griffith ((1838) 7 Ad & E 827). Why should he not do so for the purpose of gening in. His Lordship was unable to

accept that submission. In Pugh the decision of Lord Denman, was all dependent on the fact that the sheriff had achieved a lawful entry and seizure.

There was no authority to the effect that as a matter of nec the sheriff was entitled forcibly to re-enter. He might be justified in doing so where he had been forcibly ejected or excluded, but that was not what was suggested. In his Lordship's view and for

sheriff was entitled forcibly to recircumstances as a bailiff but not in case it was not clear already that that conclusion was confined If and in so far as a sheriff might forcibly enter premises other than a dwelling-house his Lordship saw no reason why he might not re-

proceedings in the US and would

do nothing other than delay those

proceedings.

That would be contrary to the

interests of the children which the

Hague Convention was designed

The legal issues that arose would

in any event have to be examined .

business as normal.

His Lordship then considered the facts of each appeal. The overall result in Khazanchi was that, although Judge Cox was wrong in respect of the lawfulness of the re-entry, no recoverable damage had been made out so that the action failed to those chrownstances, the appeals should be dismissed because there was no

because that concerning the sheriff also concerned a dwelling-house

and there was no question in either of them of the bailiff or the sheriff

being expelled by force, the ques-tion was whether the bailiff or

sheriff on seeking to re-enter had

been deliberately excluded by the fenants or Miss McLeod

of fact to be considered in the light of the individual circumstances.

But in peither case if they had no

knowledge of an intended visit by the bailiff at any particular time-would it be enough that they had

locked their premises in the or-

dinary way and gone about their

reason to vary the order of the

In each case that was a question

By her appeal Miss McLeod sought the interlocutory relief she sought from Judge Cooke, namely an injunction restraining the sheriff from selling the goods removed from her home and an injunction restraining him from entering her home save pursuant to a court order made after hearing both

There had been no trial and the count was not concerned with

Although the sheriff's re-entry was unlawful and a trespass there was no reason to think that it would be repeated unless an interlocutory injunction was

In his Lordship's judgment here was no good reason for graning the injunction sought at the present stage. Accordingly, though present stage. Accordingly, mough his Lordship disagreed with Judge Cooke's conclusion on the lawfulness of the re-entry, the appeal Lord Justice Waller and Lord

Justice Smart-Smith agreed. Solicitors: Desor & Co, Hayes Bude Nathan Iwanier. Golders

Declaration that would delay foreign case no assistance to child make to Hague Convention in the US. In those circumstances.

> Lord histor Butler-Sloss gave a concurring judgment and Lord. Justice Simon Brown agreed. Solicitors: Dawson Cornwell & Co: Clifford Chance: Treasury Solicitor.

his Lordship would dismiss the

Was company trading?

Jowett (Inspector of Taxes) v O'Neill and Brennan Construction Ltd Before Mr Justice Park

Judgment March 13]

For the purpose of a company qualifying for the lower rate of corporation tax on profits below a lower limit under section 13 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (small companies relief) its associated company that was in-active but received bank interest on a déposit account was not to be eated as a company carrying on

any trade or business.

Mr Justice Park so held in a reserved judgment in the Chairery Division when dismissing the Crown's appeal from a determiination of a special commissioner. Mr David Shirley, that related to the corporation tax liability for its accounting period to December 1995 of the taxpayer company.
O'Neill and Brennan Construction

Mr Michael Furness for the Crown: Mr Rupert Baktry for the

MR JUSTICE PARK said that the appeal turned not on anything directly to do with the activities of the taxpayer company itself, but on whether its associated company, Wynchgate Construction Ltd, can ried on any trade or business at any time in the relevant accounting period. The commissioner bek that it had not.

The point arose because section 13 of the 1988 Act prescribed a company which had profits below a specified minimum Evel. The taxpayer company's profits for 1995 were below that level:

However, the section command a general rule that if the company had an associated company the minimum level was halved. If it level was divided by three, and so

Wynchgate was an associated company so that prime face the not work so well for the tampayer company. However, to the gene rule there was an exception. And it was that exception which was in point in the case.

Section 13 provided that (4). an associated company which has

not carried on any trade or business at any time in that accounting period ... shall be The taxpayer company's case was that Wynchgate did not carry on any trade or business in 1995, so that it did not count as an

associated company for the purposes of section 13 and the taxpayer company got the full unres benefit of the reduced rate.

For the commissioner, it was so that it did count as an ass trade in 1994. That trade only lasted for about five months. It received a payment of some El00.000 and put it on deposit at the bank. It also had a account which contained a small credit balance of £300.

In the calendar year 1995, the crucial period, Wynchgate carried on no trade; closed the current account, transferring the small credit balance to the deposit account paid a corporation tax liability and earned interest on its deposit account. That was all that happened in the year.

Before the commis

inspector had relied heavily on a sage from Lord Diplock's spech passage from Lord Diplock's speci-in the Privy Council case of American Leaf Blending Co San Bhd v Director-General of Inland Resenue [[1979] AC 676, 684) that in the case of a company incorporated for the purpose of making profits for its strateholders ful use to which it puts mis to the carrying on of a

Wynchgate put its money on deposit it put its assets to gainful use, and that on the authority of American Leaf Blending it was

therefore carrying on a business. The commissioner did not agree. American Leaf Blending had done was a far ery from a company which was doing nothing except putting its money on deposit at the a company that in 1995 and 1996 was in a state of suspended

animation and carrying on no trade or business. It was agreed that the principles of Edwards v Bairstow (1956) AC 14) applied. The commis nation could only be interfered with by the court if either (i) he made a statement which showed that he misunderstood some relevant principle of law, or (ii) the facts were such that if he had acted judicially and had been properly instructed as to the relevant law he could not have come to

Neither condition was sensited.

The commissioner made no error of law. He came to a decision which it was open to him to reach, and which as it happened was, his Lordship said, also the decision which he would himself have

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue: Kenneth Hurley & Co.

European Law Report

No 'cooling off' for contract of guarantee Bayerische Hypotheken und dant under the guarantee, which Wechselbank AG v he sought to renounce on the

Case C-45/96

Before M. Wathelet. President of Chamber and Judges J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, D. A. O. Edward, P. Jann and L. Sevón Advocate General F. G. Jacobs (Opinion March 20, 1997) Judgment March 17]

A contract of guarantee entered into by a natural person who was not acting in the course of his trade or profession did not come within the scope of the Community "cooling-off" directive where it guaranteed repayment of a debt contracted by another person who was acting within the course of his trade or profession.

The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Commu-nities so held on a reference by the Bundesgerichtshof (Federal Court of Justice), Germany, for a prelimi-nary ruling under article 177 of the

EC Treaty.

Article 4 of Council Directive
85/571/EEC of December 20, 1985 to protect the consumer in respect of contracts negotiated away from business premises (OJ 1985 L372 p31) required traders to give con-sumers written notice of their right to cancel a contract to which the directive applied within a specified

period.

The defendant's father ran a building firm in respect of which the plaintiff bank granted an overdraft facility which was guaranteed by the defendant. The contract of guarantee was concluded at the house of the defendant. dant's parents during a visit by an employee of the bank.

ground that he had not been informed of his right of cancellation under a German law which implemented Directive 85/577. The Bundesgerichtshof referred the question whether a contract of

guarantee concluded by a natural person who was not acting in the course of a trade or profession was covered by the directive.

Article I of the directive provides:

"(I) This directive shall apply to contracts under which a trader supplies goods or services to a umer and which are concluded laway from the trader's

Article 2 provides: "For the purposes of this directive: consumer means a natural person who, in transactions covered by this directive, is acting for pur poses which can be regarded as outside his trade or profession. . "

In its judgment the Fifth Cham-ber of the Court of Justice held: The governments which had submitted observations considered that guarantees were not covered by the directive because a guaree was not a contract "under

which a trader supplies goods or services to a consumer". They also argued that, in the absence of specific rules in the directive providing for the fate of a contract whose performance was guaranteed by the guarantor in the event of his exercising the right of cancellation, protection of guar-antors was a matter for national

Apart from the exceptions listed in article 3(2), the scope of the directive was not limited according that the goods or services must be intended for private consumption. The grant of a credit facility was ndeed the provision of a service,

the contract of guarantee being

merely ancillary to the principal contract, of which in practice it was usually a precondition. Furthermore, nothing in the vording of the directive required that the person concluding the contract under which goods or

services were to be supplied should be the person to whom they were The directive was designed to protect consumers by enabling them to withdraw from a contract concluded on the initiative of the

trader rather than the customer. where the customer might have been unable to see all the implications of his act.

Consequently, a contract benefit-ing a third party could not be excluded from the scope of the directive on the sole ground that the goods or services purchased were intended for the use of the third party outside the contractua In view of the close link between

a credit agreement and a guar-antee securing its performance and the fact that the personguaranteeing repayment of a debt might either assume joint and several liability for payment of the debt or be the guarantor of its repayment, it could not be excluded that the furnishing of a tee fell within the scope of the directive.

Moreover, the possible termina-

directive was merely one particu-ar situation where the question possible invalidity of an ancillary

contract on the principal contract. fact that the directive contained no provision governing the fate of the principal contract where the guar-antor exercised the right of renunciation conferred by the directive could not be taken to mean that the directive did not ... apply to guarantees.
However, it was apparent from

the wording of article 1 and from the ancillary nature of guarantees that the directive covered only a guarantee ancillary to a contract whereby, in the context of doorstop selling, a consumer assumed obligations towards the trader with a view to obtaining goods or services from him.

mof Wagn

Furthermore, since the directive was intended to protect only con-sumers, a guarantee came within the scope of the directive only where in accordance with the first indent of article 2, the guarantor had entered into a commitment for a purpose which could be regarded as unconnected with his trade or

On those grounds, the European Court ruled:

On a proper construction of the first indent of article 2 of Directive 85/577, a contract of guarantee concluded by a natural person who was not acting in the course of his trade or profession did not come within the scope of the directive where it guaranteed repayment of a debt contracted by another person who, for his part, was acting within the course of his

Foreign public service to count

Commission of the European Communities v Hellenic Republic Case C-157/96

Before C. Gulmann, President of Chamber and Judges M. Wathelet, D. A. O. Edward, P. Jann and L.

Advocate General D. Ruiz-Jarabo (Opinion December 11, 1997)

Judgment March [2] A member state's refusal to take into account, for purposes relating to the salary and seniority level of an employee in its public service, a period of previous employment by him in the public service of another member state, on the sole ground that the previous employment was not performed in its own public

service, was contrary to Com-

The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in declaring, on an application by the Commission under article 169 of the EC Treaty. that Greece was in breach of its obligations under article 48 of the Treaty and article 7(1) of Regula-tion (EEC) No 1612/68 of the Council of October 15, 1968 on

freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJ English Special Edition 1968 (II) p475). A Greek law on pay for public service staff provided for years completed in the public service to he taken into account for the purposes of inter alla progression on the salary scale and the award

of seniority increment.

A Greek ristional who worked as a musician in the Thessalonika orchestra and to whom the law applied lodged a complaint that the authorities had refused to take account of five years he had worked for a municipal orchestra in France for the purposes of his grading on the salary scale and the award of additional seniority. whereas those years would have been taken into account if they had been served in a municipal or-

chastra in Greece Article 48 of the Treaty provides: (i) Freedom of movement for the Community..."

workers shall be secured within Article 7(1) of Regulation 1612/68 provides: "A worker who is a national of a member state may

not, in the territory of another member state, be treated tif-leventy from national workers by reason of his nationality in respect and work..." In its judgment the Fifth Cham-

ber of the Court of Justice held: The equal treatment rule laid down in articles 48 of the Treaty and 7 of the Regulation prohibited not only overt discrimination by reason of nationality but also all covert forms of discrimination which, by the application of other distinguishing criteria, led in fact to the same result.

Unless it was objectively jus-tified and proportionate to its aim, a provision of national law was to be regarded as indirectly discriminatory if it was intrinsically liable to affect migrant workers more than national ones and there was a consequent risk that it would place the former at a disadvantage. It was clear from the documents

before the court that the provisions of the legislation at the provisions of the legislation at issue, at least in their application, rendered it absolutely impossible for periods of employment in the public service of a member state other than Green's beautiful and the contract of the cont Greece to be taken into account for the purposes of salary scale grad-ing and the grant of semonty increment, whereas periods of

employment already completed in Greek public service were, in certain cases, taken into account.

That rule, which plainly operated to the detriment of migrant workers who had spent part of their working life in the public service of a member state other than Greece, was therefore such as to contravene the principle of nondiscrimination enshrined in the Community provisions mentioned. Greece had not adduced any evidence which could provide Objective justification for that

discriminatory treatment. On those grounds, the court declared that by excluding, by regulation or administrative practice the taking into account of previous employment in the public service of another member state for the purposes of granting to an employee in Greek public service a seniority increment and of grading him on the salary scale, on the sole ground that the previous employment was not performed in Greek public service; the Hellenic Repubc was in breach of its obligations under Community law, in particu-lar under article 48 of the Treaty

and article 7(1) of Regulation

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998 A dangerous age for an actress

as a married woman, and try to forget that scene. Martyn Palmer meets her

third of my

usual

salary to-

get the

part 9

haron Stone is wary of journalists. Ever since she burst on the scene in Basic Instinct six years ago, she has been written about, analysed, inspected and dissected in print. I had this one experience with

this completely obnoxious whore of a magazine journalist," she recalls. "He came to me one day and said The just had lunch with four psychiatrists and they tell me you can't be happy and this is why.

This man had invested so much

in my unhappiness that just being around him was creating it for me,

But it would be wrong to suggest that Stone is difficult to interview. Not only does she have plenty to say, but she's bright enough - IQ of 154. thank you very much - to put her point of view in an articulate and often humorous manner.

A few days after celebrating her 40th birthday and barely a month after her marriage to the newspaper executive

Phil Bronstein, Stone is in an upbeat mood. Maybe she has decided that now she's sleeping with the enemy, as it were, she is prepared to give us the benefit of the doubt. Ensconsed in the Ritz in Paris, she is here primarily to discuss her new movie, the Barry Levinson-directed underwater sci-fi thriller Sphere (opening here on Friday), with Dustin Hoffman and

Samuel L. Jackson. Sphere was her first film after an 18-month break Typically, when she decided that the part of biochemist Beth Halperin should be hers, she pursued Levinson. "I tortured him," she says. "They didn't have the money to pay a movie star because they had already spent a fortune on the set and they had Dustin and Sam. But I was moved by the importance of the concept that we can create and manifest our own future from our aims and individual thoughts, and I kept calling Barry. I acted out scenes in

his living room and I took a third of my usual salary and, well, I got it." It was while filming Sphere that she met Bronstein, the executive editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, who visited the set as a friend of the producer. "I basically hated him when I first met him." Stone says. He was tall and handsome and smart and successful.I was like 🖯 'What are you doing here? I'm

an important scene to do?" Then he sent me some flowers and a book and eventually he called me from a payphone while he was on a hiking trip in the mountains. And I thought Well, I suppose I could talk to him ... "

Marriage has totally changed her outlook, she says, and making films

has slipped down the list of priori-ties. Her new interests include interior design and writing short stories. She describes them as "fantasy" and they are not yet for public consumption: "I'm starting to get offers from publishers but so far I haven't let anyone read them. Maybe I'll release them under another name. Maybe under Salman Rushide's name."

A former small-town queen and model. Stone had an unremarkable movie career until the director Paul Verhoeven cast her alongside Michael Douglas in Basic Instinct, playing a bisexual suspected of murder. What makes a "star" can be hard to define, but not in Stone's case. Much has been written about Verhoeven's use of that scene, the one in which the knickerless Stone crosses and uncrosses her legs while being interrogated. He says his actress knew all about it. To this day. Stone is adamant that she was

not consulted as to whether or not it should 6 I took a go in the final cut. "My feeling was that when he got that shot all he had to do was show it to me, privately, and for us to discuss the appropriate beneficial aspects of putting it in the picture

and what it meant to the character. But he didn't want to give me the time and space to go through that process, so I lost respect for him."

Since then Stone's choices have been dubious. She made the dreary Intersection with Richard Gere and the downright silly Sliver, and the overblown action thriller The Specialist with Sylvester Stallone. Much more interesting was Sam Raimi's quirky western, The Quick and the Dead, which she co-produced, and Martin Scorsese's excellent Casino, for which she won a Best Actress Golden Globe.

She is now seriously considering a sequel to Basic Instinct. This time though, she will be calling the shots; there's no director attached to the project yet, but you can bet that Verhoeven won't be getting a call.

In Sphere, based on a Michael Crichton novel. Stone spends most of the film wearing a diving sun or dungarees, as one of a crack team sent to the bottom of the Pacific when a strange craft is discovered on the ocean bed. It's hardly glamorous and was physically very

demanding, which she enjoyed.

She would love to do a romantic trying to work. Can't you see I've got comedy, but first there's a remake of a John Cassavetes film, Gloria, in which she plays a 40-year-old woman who finds herself having to protect a small boy from the Mob. "It's cool to be 40. It really is a new life. I'm happy, but you know I'm sure there's a team of psychiatrists

out there somewhere who would

All change: Sharon Stone sports more underwear and less hair for her latest part in Barry Levinson's underwater sci-fi movie, Sphere

Darkness at the

expense of clarity

Demidenko

Festival Hall

went with song-like simplicity.

Best of all was Schumann's

Humoresque. Demidenko was

dogged in his approach, but he

caught the quiet poetry, wit

and prayer-like fervour of the

succeeding episodes with ease.

And though the mosaic struc-

ture can elude some players,

here the work flowed smoothly

from one section to the next.

wo composers central to the German Romantic

I tradition made up Nikolai Demidenko's recital

on Sunday, the latest instal-

ment of the International

Piano Series. The heavyweight

works by Beethoven and Schu-

mann formed a satisfying

programme well suited to

Demidenko's brand of pia-

nism, but they also drew

attention to old shortcomings

Both sides of this consider-

Beethoven's Hammer-

able artist's playing made themselves felt in his account

klavier Sonata, but ultimately

the good won over the less

seemed much too heavy.

perfect circus act.

in his musical make-up.

CONCERTS: Ghost of Stokowski; a noisy Icelandic newcomer; heavyweights at the piano; and Messiaen's Hollywood-style dazzler

The long and the short of Wagner

eopold Stokowski was certainly not lacking in self-confidence. His socalled "symphonic syntheses" of concert items from Wagner's operas are outrageous not only in the liberties they take - Wotan's Farewell without Wotan, the love scene from Tristan und Isolde with neither Tristan nor Isolde - but also in the demands they make on the conductor.

In programming two of Stokowski arrangements alongside original Wagner in his concert with the BBC Philharmonic, Matthias Barnert had at least one advantage over his colleagues. Having been an assistant to Stokowski, he knows how the old man worked. While they could scarcely be more different in personality, that was no great loss to Barnert here. Indeed, by excluding spurious glamour from the orchestral sound - and it needed only a change of emphasis in colour and texture to include it — he made the whole thing more

acceptable. Better still, given the structural challenge of more than 30 minutes from Tristan und Isolde - an unbroken sequence passing from the Prehade to the Act II love scene and from there to the Liehestod - he was not at all intimidated by it. It is true that the opera is rather longer than that. But the whole point of the first hour of Act III is to separate the love scene from the Liebestod and in the meantime to divert attention to different material and other dramatic issues. Passing direarly from the one to the other, immediately reviving the same kind of emotion with much the same musical material but elevating them to another level, is a considerable problem. Somehow, Barnert

found the reserves to secure a resplendent Liebestod.
The genuine Wagner — in a

programme too lumpy and too synthetic to attract the full house the BBC Philharmonic is now beginning to expect for its concerts in the Bridgewater Hall - was the Rienzi overture and Wesendonck Lieder. If the overture went according to plan, fresh in phrasing and spruce in rhythm, the Lieder did not. Kathryn Harries had withdrawn, to be replaced by a soprano of rather less experience. After a false start in Der Engel, however, Jane Irwin did go on to demonstrate that she has an attractively authentic Wagner sound.

GERALD LARNER strata of contra-bassoon,

Thrills of fire and ice

A through Glasgow City Hall at the weekend as the music of a little-known revolutionary joined that of Beethoven in the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra's series Beethoven the Revolutwacry. The noisy newcomer was icelaum's pioneering composer Jón Leifs who set out in

the first half of this century to

create a music unique to his

emerging country and him-So unique, he has been an impossible act to follow. Works like *Geysir* which shook Glasgow to the core, and the recently recorded Hekla and Saga Symphony The only points of reference for the ear are the processions of parallel fifths and the rough-hewn, irregular accentings that come from Ancient leelandic song and poetic declamation. In Geysir, a short tone poem, they churn

around in the subterranean

BBCSSO/Vanska Glasgow

trombones, horns and trumpets, to give warning of im-pending cruption in a series of thudding strokes on two sets of timpani.

The BBCSSO is getting used to dipping its toes into such scalding musical water. this is the sort of program-ming its principal conductor, Osmo Vanska, relishes, and his conducting experience in Iceland and Finland sends many an aftershock through British musical life.

The juxtaposition of the Leifs with Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony offered more. though, than a cheap thrill. Leifs believed the object of art was "to provide mankind with the stamina to endure life's tribulations - to make people stronger". For both composers, the elemental forces of nature were, inextricably, expressions of man's inner energies; and this was acusery sen-in Vānskā's performance of the Sixth Symphony.

The brisk, bright articula-

tion of every phrase fragment made bows dance over the strings and electricity crackle in the air long before the famous storm. Thanks to Vānskā's use of the new Barenreiter Untext edition, the violins were eloquently muted throughout the slow movement, revealing the beauty of the woodwind solos. The merrymaking and song of the symphony was played out in bright, primitive shapes and colours, rather like a pastoral scene from a Viennese

Vienna, endurance - the notes had already been sounded before the interval in a passionate performance by young Jennifer Koh of Berg's Violin Concerto and, in this most stimulating of evenings, prefaced by Sibelius's stormy tone-poem, The Oceanides.

HILARY FINCH

Gamelan a long way east of Eden

oussevitzky, who commissioned Messiaen's Turangalila Symphony, dreamt it would have the impact of a postwar Rite of Spring. instead it was derided - not for being avant-garde, but for being glitzy. As one critic wrote: The trashiest Hollywood composers have met their match." Messiaen was subsequently canonised

as a mystical genius, and Turangalila seen as one of his poems of ecstasy. In fact, that early critic was not far wrong. For all its mammoth structure of interlocking cycles, its integration of atonality. modality and tonality, its gamelaninspired sonority, there was never a film score with more star-bursting dazzle.

In this performance Mark Elder drove the London Philharmonic forward with tenacity and passion; tempos were lively and rhythms sharp, especially in the complex counterpoint of the Finale. The Cinssical Fusions Festival Half

brass played their themes with the right grandeur, and there were fine solos in strings and wind. Peter Donohoe threw himself into the piano part, the celeste. glockenspiel and tubular bells brilliantly synchronising with his gestures. This performance was the culmination

of the "Classical Fusions" day focused on the Indonesian gamelan. An easily executed idea, one would have thought, since the South Bank sits on one of the busiest gamelans in the Western world: in any one week there are up to 400 people playing on it, and the South Bank Gamelan Players are an expert outfit. Unfortunately, political correctness of the worst kind led to a hasty decision to

import Wacana Budaya, an amateurish gamelan group from Frankfurt, simply because they are racially Indonesian. Glancing in panic at their notes, the players struggled through several dull elementary numbers, one or two of them droning almost inaudibly in a sad approximation of song, before four anxious novice dancers arrived on stage for a display of breathtaking ineptitude.

It was an insult to the audience, but also to the South Bank Gamelan Players, who had been relegated to the foyer during the interval, and whose sweetvoiced singer against complex rippling wedding music soon drew a crowd. Moreover, with their repertoire of traditional and Western-composed gamelan music, this was the group to provide a real bridge between musical cultures.

HELEN WALLACE

magic, but cute usically speaking. Kristin Hersh is in

a magnetic field of her own. Her songs have their own peculiar energy, their own artistic force. For this reason some observers regard her songs as at best inaccessible, at worst wilfully obscure. But Hersh, like all songwriters, is simply trying to make sense of the world as she sees it. It's just that her lenses are cut from different glass from your regulation National Health specs.

Hersh first came into public view in the 1980s as leader of Throwing Muses, a maverick art-rock troupe from the East Coast of America. But Hersh did anything but coast through her career or, for that matter, her personal life. A diagnosed manie-depressive, she is reliant on lithium to keep her in check, while her band went through almost as many personnel changes as average relegation-

> POP Kristin Hersh Dublin

threatened football club. Nevertheless. Throwing Muses left an impressive and decidedly underrated body of work, encompassing seven albums for 4AD records. Hersh's biggest success, though, came with her stripped-down solo album. Hips and Makers. The bulk of this show was given over to

sister, Strange Angels. So this was a no-frills night with just an acoustic guitar and a sturdy chair as Hersh's props. But despite the sparse form the show took, the content was never anything less than captivating, with the capacity crowd hanging on Hersh's every climactic chorus and self-deprecating

this album and its newborn

Though she is stuffing 2,000-capacity venues elsewhere on this tour, this was an altogether more intimate setting, with just 400 souls lucky enough to gain entry into the Music Centre, a purpose-built Tempic Bar area.

The specially installed tiered seating gave the otherwise undistinguished hall the ambience of a theatre, while the soft-hued surrentitious lighting - which consisted of combinations of red, green and blue - was the icing on the visual cake.

The opening Gazebo Tree and the new single Like You were the stand-outs from the new album, while Cuckoo and Me and My Charms had the added advantage of familiarity. The show never flagged over the course of the 90 minutes. A big factor was Hersh's many endearing sto-ries about her children — she is now happily married to her manager and living in domestic bliss. But musically, the key was to be found in her resonant, pitch-perfect voice and the variety in her song structures. A Loon, for instance, shifts between an aggressive strum and the delicately picked note, each complementing the other.

There were golden Throwing Muses' oldies too: Delicate Cutters and You Cage, for instance, were reworked for the encores. "There's magic here and magic's weird. she sings during Shake. Weird magic that just about sums up the Kristin Hersh

NICK KELLY JOHN ALLISON



Cultural polyglot Michael Morris tells Andy Lavender how

he turned a taste for the avant-garde into an industry

turned when, in 1987, Michael Morris left his job as director of performing arts at London's Institute of Contemporary Arts. But then, how were you to know that this simple departure might give rise to entire new departures in British arts production? For Morris is now the director of Cultural Industry and a codirector of Artangel, production companies whose imprint is to be found on some of the most eyecatching new work to have surfaced in the past few years. This is not just a question of smart programming. Morris's way of doing things might expand the horizons of theatre and visual arts producers in decades to

"One of the reasons why I left the ICA was because I felt that putting on stuff that was extraordinary in a 160-seat theatre was marginalising it." Morris says. "I would like to think that the artists we work with are not conventional, but we do make a point of very deliberately working in conventional and mainstream auditoriums. I've always wanted to promote work that I care about in the mainstream."

For which purpose, he says, he formed Cultural Industry. Productions by the likes of Robert Wilson, Robert Lepage, Pina Bausch and Laurie Anderson demonstrate that Morris is bringing to Britain's stages the cream of the Western world's avant-garde, even if some of the artists are greying round the

Morris has been culturally industrious over the past months, working on future presentations of Lepage's work (a devised show about the American architect Frank Lloyd Wright, a multimedia cabaret with Lepage himself as MC, and a production of Gustav Mahler's Kindertotenlieder) and new shows by Pina Bausch and La La La Human Steps, Meanwhile, Shock-Headed Peter, directed by Phelim McDermott and Julian Crouch, two of the more original talents in British theatre, opens on Friday at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in

All of which sounds like excitement enough for one producer. But Morris is involved in another company whose projects, in the long term, might prove yet more influen-tial. In 1991 he was appointed, along with James Lingwood, to direct the artistic programme of Artangel, an operation dedicated to producing site-specific work. "At that point Artangel was doing visual arts of an urban interventionist kind," Morris says. "James and I wanted to broaden the range of artists that Artangel worked with and increase the profile of the projects and of the company itself,"

6 Almost everyone who wants to innovate has to operate between the

cracks 9 Michael Morris

All objectives successfully achieved. Artangel's projects in-clude Rachel Whiteread's Turner Prize-winning House, a concrete cast of a Victorian terraced house which stirred a lively controversy to do with the nature of public art, and Robert Wilson's HG, an installation in a disused underground prison, near Tower Bridge, Neil Bartlett's oratorio Seven Sacraments is about to tour to Southwark Cathedral. Southwell Minster and St Bartholomew's Church in Brighton. And

Lingwood has just overseen the

opening of The Palace of Projects. an installation by the Russian artist Ilya Kabakov at London's oftneglected Roundhouse Theatre.

Each project can claim distinctiveness, as an event shaped by its location. But the larger point is that each is partly conceived by Lingwood and Morris, as much as by the artists themselves. This really is a case of producer-as-artiste.

The way we work is to say, 'It would be great to do a project with this particular person', and then through conversation with that per-son we come to an area of interest," Morris says. "The best kinds of project happen as something that's already latent within the artist's mind. We create an opportunity to bring it to the fore. Artangel's role is as a very proactive and, I hope, benign commissioning editor."

his kind of activity on the part of the producer — both conceptual and creative is found more often in television and publishing than in the theatre or the visual arts. If it suggests a fresh entrepreneurial spirit, the fact remains that the work Morris produces costs more than can be covered by box-office returns alone. "We are motivated by ideas," he says. "The energy isn't about making money, the energy is about making projects."

Let us not forget, however, that producers also look after the balance sheets. Artangel currently receives funding from the Arts Council and the National Lottery. There is a four-year sponsorship deal with the German brewery Becks, and a robust private patron scheme. About a hundred individuals act as theatrical angels, paying either £350 a year, or £1,000 for four

"Not only do you get invited to all the openings, but every Christmas we give our patrons a limited edition - it can be a photograph, a print, a book - connected with one of the projects," Morris says. "There was a book by Rachel Whiteread of photographs of House, for instance, which is now worth far more than the subscription."

Artangel almost always offers the same flat fee, regardless of the reputation of the artist or the scale of



Five faces make up a startling composite of Shock-Headed Peter. Michael Morris's latest production

always jealous of colleagues in France and Germany because of the huge amounts of state funding that the arts get in those countries," Morris says. "But whenever they come over here and see our work, they say. This could never happen

the project. The invitation to work in a certain way is, one presumes, as appealing as the money. "We are in France and Germany." Because "There isn't anybody who's doing at the moment," what I'm doing at the moment, "Morris says, which is trying to get appealing as the money. We are things happen between the cracks there, whereas here almost everyone who wants to innovate has to

> The evidence suggests that he has become rather good at it. The hope, surely, is that other producers follow, making the cracks wider.

large audiences for artists who are . favour of the cheap thrill, and really looking at the future of

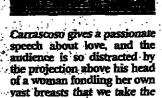
Shock-Headed Peter is at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds (0113-213 7700) from Friday. For details of Artangel projects call 0171-336 6803

Keep moving 4

"WHEN everything is sexualised, nothing is sexual any more, and when everything is politicised, nothing is political any more, announces Gill Lyon towards the end of the Bandrillard-influenced After the Orgy. This is good meat for dramatic exploration, and in theory provides one of the main themes for Volcano's latest show, yet After the Orgy seems to wallow in a confu sion about exactly what it is trying to say or evoke.

This is a shame, because there is so much potential onstage. It looks fabulous. with a live rock band, hydraulic pulleys, a go-go dancer, cinematic tricks and video footage two excellent physical performers and most of all, an awful lot of

porn, relayed on TV screens. What more could a punter want? As if turned out focus. After the Orgy becomes frag-mented. Sometimes this is deliberate, such as when Juan



place of his unlistening, unre-

sponsive lover.

But most of the time we become so sated with information that we lose the ability to discriminate. . The theme has been taken on halfheartedly at best, and eventually succeeds only because of its poor execution; attention is continually distracted away from the two performers.

Lyon is a glory when in motion, but when she stops dancing or fighting she loses magnetism. Carrascoso is also given an excess of text to struggle through, most of which is obscured by his heavily accented delivery. This is a waste of two talented physical performers.

The fact that the pair are also very beautiful creates a problem of its own. Prancing about in a state of underpanted perfection under large projections of seedy pornography, they make it seem, by comparison, faintly comic and physically ridiculous. This rather glib attitude suggests that Volcano is no better than the culture it is mocking: it too knows that sex

HETTIE JUDAH

The nick knack

IF YOU were asked what sort of play you would find in what still looks like a glowering fortress, you would probably answer: something rigorous but unadventurous, maybe something austerely "improving". Not a piece improvised by prisoners with the help of our most exciting Asian company, Tara. Certainly not a play by an eminent jailbird and professional subversive.

One of the two plays cur-rently in Wandsworth's exofficio repertoire is Joe Orton's Erpingham Camp. The other is a short "devised play" called To the Dogs and involving, of all unexpected subjects, Amundsen's expedition to the South Pole in 1911. Six men in blue prison shirts act out, simply and punchily, the tale of a man who has never appealed to British tastes. He was foreign. He beat Scott to the bottom of the world and didn't have the decency to end up dead. Worse, he did so by subsisting on his transport: he devoured his dogs.

But Amundsen also sur-vived conflict and defied blizzard, fog and terrible temperatures. "We wanted the inmates to draw a connection between the ambition of a group of explorers and their own ambitions," writes the director, Iqbal Husain, in the programme; and maybe there are other connections. If the piece involves the pains and



perils of achievement, it also touches on the yearning for the normal. I don't know if it was Clive C., Peter W., Sean C., Rob R., or Daniel B. who ended up saying the only thing we dream of is the day we get home; but Amundsen would have known what these gifted amateurs felt. Orton's picture of a holiday

camp modelled on Colditz is hardly lacking in point either. Bob Taylor's exuberant production opens with a prison officer wearily saying "Association's over, back to your cells" and ends with him completing the same order with "there's nothing like a nice quiet nick". The point is that Erpingham's nick is not quiet but, with the campers in revolt against the redcoats, increasingly reminds you of the uprising in The Bacchae. It is fun, terrific fun, packed with mischievous lines and gleeful steam-letting. I am sure that Aron K., Steve B., John P. and the rest of an enjoyably zestful cast found it cathartic. I suspect the powers at Wandsworth did so too.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Antiquarian dream-seller

his two-hour trip into the nooks and crannies of John Aubrey's memory was first performed in the 1960s by Roy Dotrice, who earned himself a place in the record books when the production turned into the longest- running one-man show. Patrick Garland had selected the items from Aubrey's famous Lives and miscellania and directed Dotrice, and now directs his selection again with Michael Williams as the antique antiquary, tottering between wakefulness and sleep as he shares with us the grains

of a lifetime's gleaning. Williams is a gnomish, rubicund figure whose wispy white goatee and moustachios are the ghosts of what a youthful Royalist might once have grown in honour of Charles L. Who we in the audience are is not so certain. Aubrey may well be dreaming us, because the lighting de-signed by Robin Carter varies with his moods, triumphantly golden when he recalls the coronation of Charles II, but at any time likely to brighten or fade as though Bloomsbury in 1697, where and when the play is set, were subject to a particularly savage plague of

Tim Goodchild's set is a suspended avalanche of clutter where shelves of dusty volumes climb to the ceiling. tapestries hang half off their tenterhooks and the cobwebbed tables and chairs are freighted with pewter pots, stuffed animals, scraps of food and much else besides, all contributing to the impression of an exterior life as disordered as the interior one. Many of Aubrey's anecdotes

have passed into the accepted social knowledge of his century, though some racier ones concerning the great arrive second-hand. Did Shakespeare really say "William the Conqueror comes before Richard ill!" when discovered in bed with a lady who had expected him to be Richard Burbage? Who knows, but I hope so.

Though Williams has played sour, snappy characters in the past they do not exactly dominate recent sections of his curriculum vitae. where he has come to specialise in a range of roguish, not to say cosy, folk. As



Memories of 1697: Michael Williams interprets the cluttered reminiscences of the diarist John Aubrey

Aubrey he goes in for more cackles and mumbling oh-oh-ohs than I wanted. They emphasise display more than empathy. But he is good with silence. Not, I'm afraid, the tricksy hesitation that sepa-rates Martha from Mary in a tale about a monstrous baptism, but the sudden pause

when overcome by a sense of

All those happier days that were overthrown by the Civil War, those curiosities from the past that never escaped what he calls the Teeth of Time.

Polishing history

STUCK on one side of the stage like some sort of ironic postage stamp is a small poster for the Cape Times newspaper, James Christopher writes. On it is the headline: "Mandela Meets Spice Girls".

Leaning on his shoeshine box on the other side is Kat Diamond, a hoary cove with an opening song, Memory, that shimmles us back in time to the "coloured" vocal harmony group he started on the streets of District Six, Cape Town, in 1957. The four fledgeling Cavalla Kings, led by Kat's pugnacious younger self (Jody Abrahams), harmonise, schmooz, rock, locomote, twist and doo-wop quite sper-tacularly through two acts of 1950s nostalgia.

The boys are marketed as slickly as if they were indeed the Spice Girls. What gives David Kramer and Taliep Petersen's musical an edge over the endless loop of compilation shows is that it is based on the true story of Salie Daniels, the real-life shoeshiner who plays the narrator, Kat. Though all the songs are original, most of them sound like fresh lyrics stapled over old tunes.

Salie looks remarkably spry for a man in his late fifties, and is blessed with a voice like torn silk, so it is hard to believe how he ended up buffing JEREMY KINGSTON footwear. The problem is



clearly his memory. The story

of how the band played their first gig and cut their first record is infectiously imprinted in the songs. What is missing is any sense of the harsh racial politics that turned District Six into the wasteland it is today. Even their job at the Claridges Hotel in Durban, where the Kings had to work as bellhops before they performed at night, is smoothed into a tenminute comedy number. The characters are similarly slight. There is the clownish Ballie and his crush on big-bottomed girl Josephine.

There is Magoo, still suspiciously wearing grey school shorts at the age of 18. There's Bingo, Kat's best buddy, a serial hit with the ladies who is constantly duelling with Magoo. And there's Kat, seemingly smarter than everyone but who fritters everything away on cards.

Crucially, the demise of the band, like the buildozing of District Six, is tucked apologetically between the last two numbers, rendering what might have been real into West End fantasy. Ultimately all polish but no spit. .

feverishly family... an astonishing play "A might of exquisite large ne, and the revelation in a new adaptation by RON HUTCHINSON "KEINETH CRANHAM is existending Olivier: Thurs 26: Fri 2", Mon 30 & Tues 31 March at 7 Ispin: Sat 28 March at TALAH HOWARD gives one of his 90pm & 7.15pm & continuing Royal National Theatre Box Office 0171-152 3000

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament CHE WALKER

Age: 29. Profession: Playwright.

Che? Yes. Named after the great Latin American revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara by his famous actress mother. Anne Mitchell, and his director father, Rob Walker. My parents were serious socialists. Che was killed when my mother was pregnant with me. They had his poster on the wall. It made sense really."

Claim to fame: Che's first play Been So Long, a hard-hitting look at Camden's He was at the infamous poll

underworld, opens the Royal Court's new season of contemporary plays in the Theatre Upstairs on April 7. On the strength of the script he has already been flown out to LA and has also been commissioned to write treatments for both TV and film. Secret of the play's author

ticity. "I was born and bred in Camden. The characters in the play are composite parts of the people I've known."

Strong left-wing views? Yes.



tax riot in Trafalgar Square, and stood with anti-apartheid demonstrators outside South Africa House

Does he wear a beret to rehearsals? "No. Nor do I walk around Camden shout-

ing 'Power to the people'." Credentials: Walker trained as an actor at Webber Douglas and has been playing in shows like The Bill for the

past seven years. He also arrested Roy Hudd in Denis Potter's Lipstick on Your Collar. "Part of why I started writing was because I was tired of copper roles." Biggest influences: Philip Ridley, Jim Cartwright,

Derek Blackwood and a certain revolutionary icon.

Currently: "I'm adapting Euripides's Iphigenia at Aulis which opens at the South-wark Playhouse in May. Ir's a long way from Camden."
Or Cuba.

> JAMES CHRISTOPHER

hot to bear his chief English Touring Theatre begins the national lout of Judich Johnson's Shellfish as part of a counter by with A Difficult Age Cyclum Theatre, Heath Street (01270 537332); Tonight-Sar 7 30pm April 4, 2

conductor Fullment Lephard waste me Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the 900 Charatim a concentrationing

Muzari's Exsultate Judiate and Fauri's Request Solosts are the supports Hancy Angenta and the basis barbone has Danes St. Many's Cothedral. Parmettin

Place (0131-668 2015) Torught 7 45pm

LIVERPOOL: Principal conductor of the 880 Scotter SC Osmo Various, part a visit to the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchaster Hick pencel by a ferior Firm, the outstanding matter British at Visit and Conductor Scotter Scot

Vicin, Conserio, which is followed by

Tretan and texture and Serior s Concern for Orefection Philhermonic Hall, Hope Seets (0151-709 3789) Tonghi, 7,30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Burblean Sharer The Art of Crahmanship (0171-638 8891) British Museum: Islamic and Indian Paintings from the Collection of Prince and Princess Seamacon Aga 1973-1973 (8575) Delivirish

Prince and Princess Sacrucion Aga Phan 1977-1322 85251 Delwicht Tah in the Age of Turnor (Mail 482 5554) Goethe Institute: Bernin Protographs by Gertlard Ulfmann (0771-594 0214) Haywardt Henni Carrie-Bresson Europeans (0771-205 1744) Hattlorial Portrait. Henry Carrie-Bresson Pomenti (0771-205 0055) Royal Academy Icons and the Isso of Mossow (0771-205 8000) Tata Turner and the Scientists (5171-887 8000) V & A. Costume and Technic of Palvistan (0171-938 8049/8441)

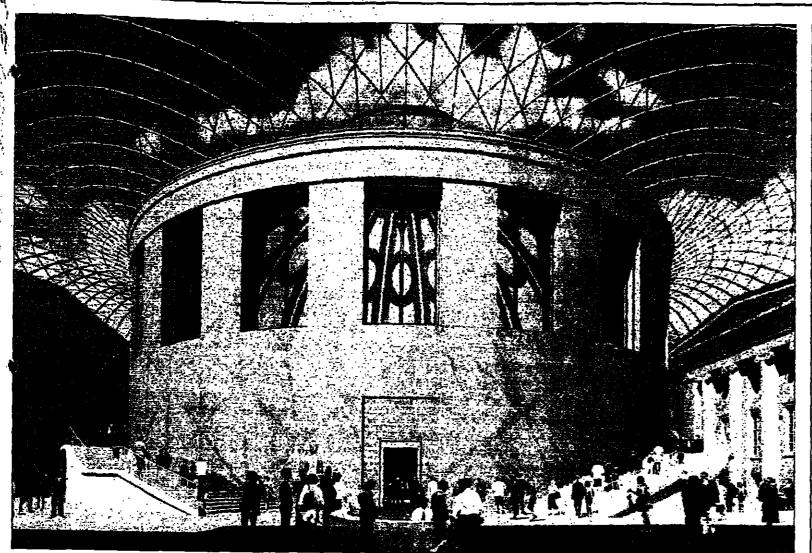
warcon Trevor Numr directs
National (Cottettoe) South Bank, SS1
-0171-452 3000: Tonight-Fr., 7 30pm,
martemorew, 2 30pm in repertore

SLEEPING AROUND. Four while;s Huay Fannin, Stepher, Greennom, Morgan, Mark Ravenhill) and two cenomets (John Lloyd Fillingham,

Soone Stanton) give a charp contemporary what to Schnitzer's La Ronge for Paines Plough Last of the

Four Comerc season Donmar Warehouse, Earthern Street,

EDMINITEGE Town on the



A computer-generated image of the view across the Great Court, with the Round Reading Room at the centre and Norman Foster's "dome" overhead

Great Court's big catch

ums are spending fortunes on creating vast, lofty entrance halls where sometimes barely a work of art is to be seen. Beneath I.M. Pei's glass pyramid the Louvre has its cavernously empty stone-walled concourse. At Barcelona's new Museum of Modern Art, Richard Meier has designed a dazzling white grand stair that takes up half the building and consigns works of art to gloomy rooms behind.

This month the British Mu-Leum has set about building The greatest atrium of them all, glazing over its entire 300ftlong Great Court. This could be the most exciting display of sculpture in London, but at present minimalism looks set to triumph over any call to use the space for a sizeable display of treasures long consigned to stores and basements:

Still there are good reasons to be excited over the museum's plans. For more than a century the Great Court has been hidden from view, filled by the vast Round Reading Room (opened in 1857) and surrounding bookstacks.

Great institution though it was, the library completely visitors, confronting them with constant changes of direction and level as they battled round the surrounding galleres. By scooping out the da. Sir Norman Foster opens up direct routes from the centre of the museum to galleries at every level.

No longer will you be fighting your way past large

The new centrepiece of the British Museum should be filled with artefacts, not left bare, says Marcus Binney

Rosetta Stone," says Dr Robert Anderson, the museum director.

Foster's Great Court - and the newly excavated basement below - will offer abundant space for all the things visitors want to do when not ogling antiquities: sit, eat, drink, shop, attend lectures. It will also provide space for school parties and extra temporary exhibition galleries. Better still, it will be open from nine in the morning to nine or ten at night. The Millennium Commission, in contributing £30 million to the scheme, insisted that this should be a public space which anybody could walk through as freely as they would through an arcade.

the breath because it floats above the Court without the aid of a single intermediate column "It's a doughnut bridging across from the rectangular court to the Round Reading Room," Mike Cook, of the engineers Buro Happold, explains. "Being doubly curved, the roof structure behaves like a dome or shell and carries much of its load in compression. This will allow the steelwork to be much more slender than would nor-

Foster's new roof will steal

this scale." It has been designed to withstand heavy wind and snow loads and avoid buckling. As the Reading Room is an early example of a wrought-iron frame and is comparatively delicate, the

mally be the case with roofs on

weight of the new roof will be carried on a ring of steel columns built into a new stone wall cladding the rotunda. To ensure accuracy and to minimise time spent on installation, large parts will be pre-assembled off-site.

Foster's strongest suit has long been the quality of light in his buildings. Much of the beauty of the Great Court will

Embankment.

spectrum, still barely dis-

cussed, would be a Lapi-

darium such as that at Sir

John Soane's Museum with

tier on tier of antiquities

climbing the walls. This could

be done with pieces from the

museum's reserve collection.

But the most spectacular, and

representative, method would

be to utilise the museum's vast

collection of casts, creating a

display as thrilling as the

From 1836, the museum

made casts not only of its own

treasures but of antiquities

elsewhere, many of which

have deteriorated or are inac-

cessible, as in the case of the

Achaemenid sculpture in Iran.

Great Court could be the

museum in microcosm, touch-

ing on all the great ancient

civilisations — Assyrian,

Egyptian, Greek and Roman,

Mexico, where the museum

In the 20th century, muse-

ums have focused on the

authentic and the original, but

today we increasingly look at

antiquities not just as fine art,

but as keys to understanding

history. At the moment, the

never collected originals.

well as areas such as

A display of casts in the

V&A's cast court.

6 This could be the most exciting. display of sculpture in

derive from the intensity of sunlight and the blue of the sky. As clouds pass overhead, floors and walls will pass in and out of shade, creating an exhilarating effect. This could be dulled if tinted or fritted glass is used to reduce solar gain, Foster's partner, Spencer de Grey, insists that this will not happen. "We used fritting in the glass over the Sackler Galleries at the Royal Academy and from below no one can tell." he says.

There seems to be a fear that small antiquities will not register in the Great Court and a few judiciously placed large-

British Museum's computer perspectives show the new stone walls of the rotunda almost bare. We need sketches showing how they could be scale pieces of sculpture will be covered with inscriptions, hiall that is appropriate - an eroglyphs and statuary. Easter Island head, a colossal Crowded displays of ancient fragment of a classical statue sculpture can offer exciting and an Egyptian obelisk, perjuxtapositions, as the musehaps Cleopatra's Needle um's display of the Townley marbles in the basement brought indoors to escape the shows. In Ancient Rome itself, pollution of the Thames sculpture was often as crowd-At the opposite end of the ed as in a Victorian cemetery.

> wonderful series of idealised early 19thcentury watercolours by James Stephanoff shows the museum's galleries gloriously packed from floor to ceiling with friezes and reliefs. But all the museum's computer generations show at present is a faint suggestion that the names of donors (such as the mysterious Lord and Lady Tidfubky) may be carved around the rounds in metrehigh letters.

Foster is also turning his attention to repaving the museum's magnificent forecourt. Here a battle fought recently in Seville is relevant. At the time of the 1992 World Expa numerous sleepy little squares were expensively repaved with an insistent Modernist chequer-grid. But around Seville's wonderful cathedral, the entire plaza was relaid in huge rectangular slabs of natural stone with an aplomb worthy of Renaissance Italy.

The British Museum deserves no less - paving that is as bold, noble and classically proportioned as Sir Robert Smirke's great colonnade behind.

LONDON

CHAMBER MUSIC: The proling Services Ensemble of Lander continues to 15th entities any celebrations with a chited leaduring music by Marille. Scriptific Meraplesohn and Branns Kigmere Hell, Wigmore Steen, Wi 3171-535 51411 Tongte, 7 30pm 👸

LONDON SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA: The dynamic, lickan prounter Recardo Chally leads the ISO in a power-pasked concert (Venter's paging that movement of his Lecura Symptomy, Tolenleier, is State of the chang part of Acilian flugger of Schoolsmanning wan Jane Bagen and Janes Wasson as Funnings and Sunge Barblean Sak Singer, ECC (0171-638 8531 - Tenght, 7 30pm, (§)

SALICY JACK AND THE SPACE Custons, Sharreshury Avenue, W1 10171-494 55411 Opens tonight Forn Than Man-Thur, Sprin, Fr. 5 30pm and

a 30pm Sat 4pm and 8:30pm SEPARATE TABLES! HARLECLIBIADE TEIENCE PADIÇEN'S 1954 d'aude bill, responng historio

sensored gay released to the first play Color Environd's for-log cert includes Sarbara Johand, Shella Reid, Lucy Samara ucharo, presis reso, cury Vingarose, Marc Edon Kingha Hend Upper Sheet, N1 (0171-225 1916). Province from tonight, Epon Doens March 30, Spin Then Tue-Set, Spin mots Sar and Sun, 3 30pm (§

UNCLE VANYA Rate Michael directs Stephen Differe, Linus Roache, Anastano Hille in a new RSC version of Chektory's crama about likeson and 7. strator Young Vie, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (0:71-929 6065) Previous from long Tison. Opens April 1, 7pm, in reserve a

is wart's VIEW Jub Dench and Sametha South play mother and designer in Dand Hare's invenig drama of love, ambition, resembent at the hazards of contemporary file Cast undisagged from the National Theatre conduction. E ALLY'S VIEW Judy Denot and Aldersch. The Aderson, WC2 (0171-416 6363) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mar Sat,

Consider Authors weep, beard and creecing powr in Paties' Garland's remained for eneme play Dachess. Camerine Street, WC2 (0.1714-94 5015) Opens March 23 Then March 25 Epm, mars Wed and Saf, 2,50pm.

Ci CAUSE CELEBRE Ranigan's less play, a battle of moral attitudes between Africa Rettendury and a woman in the pay syng har for the marker of her edien; husbarral hall Benton directs ns angy assessment of 1930s.

hypcossy.

Lyria, r5ng Sheet, W6 (0181-741 2311)

Mon-Sat. 7 30pm; mar Sat, 2 30pm. Until
April 4, 5

E CHICAGO: Re celebrared Kandler & Ebb musical carected by Walter Bobble A multi-Tony wither on Broadway last year Starring Ruther Herishell, Use Lemper, Henry Goodman and Nigel Planer Adelphil, Strand, WC2 (0171-344 0055) Mon-Sat. 8pm: mats Wed and Sat, 2,30pm. (a)

☐ A DELICATE BALANCE: Eileen Atkins hauntingly chilling in welcome revival of Albee's play about mamage, parenthood and neighbourliness. Magge Smith plays the drunk sister.

◆ GATTACA (15) Cool and thic sci-fit

NEW RELEASES

CINEMA GUIDE

● GAT FACA (15) Look and crist 5-5 moves about genetic engineering, with Effan Hawke. Uma Thurman and Jude Law, Director, Andrew Naccol Uct; Whiteleys © (0900 828990) Vingins: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Trocadero © (0181-970 6015) Warner © (0171-437 4343) THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK

(12): Deception and thills at the court of Louis VIV. Dullish new version of the Dumas novel, with an ettroctive cast Dumas nove, with an amount of cast (Leonardo DiCapno, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich, Gebnel Byrne, Gérerd Departheuj Director, Fandali Walace, Octooms: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kenstagton (0181-315 4214) Marthe Arch (0181-315 4216) Series Cettono (0181-315 4216) Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0990 888990) Virgin Fulham R (0171-370 2636)

JACKIE BROWN (15). Pam Grier's money smuggler tres wriggling out of trouble. Entertaining adaptation of Errore Leonero's comic triniler from Quantin Tarantero, with an exc cast (Robert Forster, Semuel L. Jackson, Robert De Niro, Michael Keaton, Empire (5) (0990 888990)

LOVE, ETC. (15): Two triends and one wile form a triangle Agreeable French tute from Julian Barries's novel Talling If Over With Charlotte Gainsbourg, Yva Arial, and Charles Berling Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) THE RIVER: Powerful Tanvanese film about alienation and dystunctional family

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAME Two string virtuosa violends Nigel Kennedy and culticity, no Hanuf, team up for a celebrily receib two proces by Bach Violer Stream No. 2 and Gello Sude No. 6, provide cach after with a solid strundase, before they

portly tachic works by Revel and Kodely Symphony Hall Ercad Stron (0121-212 3333) Tongin, 8pm (§) CREWE Cressy Rock plans a medic



Riccardo Chailly leads the LSO at the Barbican

THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only Some seats available

Theatre Royal Ha,market, S.W. (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sel, 8pm mats Wed and Sal, 3pm. (§) DEVERYMAN Joseph Mydeli movingly plays the hero in this successfully revived religious drama from carea 7500

Pil, Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight-Sail, 7 15pm. mats temporiow and Sail, 2pm. In rep GIRLS' NAGHT OUT Dave Simpson's fouring show, set at a male smp show for hens, is said to reveal more than meats the eye Victoria Palaca, Victoria S. SW1 (0171-834 1317) Mon-Thur, Bpm; Fn and Sai, 5:30pm and 8pm

THE MAGISTRATE IAN ☐ THE MAGISTRATE. Ian Richardson plays the much harassed hero in a titulity turny revival of Pinero's tarce. Cast includes Graham Crowden, Frank Middlemass, John Padden Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888), Mon-Sei, 7 30pm; mats Wed and Sar, 3pm. ⑤

MOT ABOUT NIGHTINGALES IN

WC2 (0171-369 1732) Torughi-Sat. 8pm, mai Sat. 4pm (5) spm., mail sat. 4pm (g)

If THE WEIR. Return of Conor
McPhetron's award-wraning play, this
time to the main house in an linsh puto
of story-tiglets a water (Julia Food)
stendes all trials with a tale of ghosts
and angels ten Ruckson directs
Regard Court Desirustation (Culve of
Yon's), S. Marthr's Lane, WC2 (071)
565 5000), Mon-Sat. 7 30pm, mats.
3 30pm, (§)

LONG RUNNERS ☐ Buddy Strand (0171-930 8800) ☐ The Complete Works of William Shakkaspeare (Abridged) Criterion (0171-369 1737)

D Gresse: Cambridge (0171-494 5060) D Les Misérables Pal Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

tilms in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆ on release across the country

CURRENT UN AIR DE FAMILLE (15): Agreeable French comedy-drama about a squabbling larnly gathered for a birthday. Cedinc Klapisch directs Jean-

Press Bacti and Agnes Jeoui. Curzon Minema (0171-369 1723) Metro (0171-437 0757) ◆ AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15)

Obsessive-computative Jack Nicholson times to become a better person. Crowd-pleasing, maniputative cornect drams from James L. Blooks, normated for six Occars. ABC Tottenheim Ct Rd (0171-636-6148). Ctephann Ct Rd (0171-636-6148). Ctephann PH(0171-498-3323). Greenwitch (0181-285-3006). Netting Hill Coronel (§) (0171-727-6705). Odeons: Camolon (0181-315-4285). Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marbic Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottag (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Hill (0171-435 3366) FALLEN (15) Senal Number Beath hormcibe detective Derzell Washington towards a demon spim called Azazel Umicessanly complicated and preternous thriller, with John Goodman and Embeth Davidiz, Director, Gregory

FALLEN (15) Senai kilangs lead

Cottage (01&1-315 4220) Virgin Trocadero (5) (0181-970 6015) W Trocadero (5) (D181-970 6015) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343) ◆ TITANIC (12) Kale Winslet and

doorned lines, Ultrastely overwhelming spic, directed by James Carmeton ABCst: Balter Street (0171-835 9772) Tottlenham Court Road (1777-835 6148) (greenwich (0161-225 3005) Odeonat Caunden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Leiceuter Square (0181-315 4215) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Ritzy 0171-372 1211 1151 Withhalens (N (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (1) (0990 888890) Virgins: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Fulham Road (0171-WAG THE DOG (15): Hollywood producer Dustin Hollman stages a phoney was to deflect the US public from a presional a service stage and Sary political same, with Robert De Nino and dame Mecha Descript. Better Laws and

Anne Heche, Director, Barry Levins, ABC Totlenham Court Road (017 535 £148) Clapham PH (0171-498 3223) Odeones Kensington (0181-315 4214) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) Pizza (5 0090 880:90) Rttzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (1090 688950) Virgins: Fulhern Road (0171-370 2636) Haymarket (0171-839 1527)

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THEATRES

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ROMALD PICKUP
JOYCE REDMAN
The Mational Thethre
Production of

AMY'S VIEW a new play by DAVID HARE irected by RICHARD EYRE. Eves 7.30, Sat Met 2.30 ALDWYCH 0171 418 6000 ic 0171 957 4001/420 0000 (bkg lee) Grpc 0171 416 6075/413 3321

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GOURMET DINNER WITH MICHEL ROUX

'They forgot the reason for football'

Newcastle find true cost of love and money

say, the former provokes the desire, but takes away the performance - and that is what the trouble at Newcastle United Football Club is all about it began with a rich old man with his heart and his head no longer filled with the wheels and deals of business life. Instead, he was possessed by dreams of glory. His name was Sir John Hall and, instead of making money, he decided to throw it away. He spent millions at Newcastle United in a wild, crazy pursuit of joy.

It is a common enough story. Very rich men often turn to sport late in life. They seek to love and be loved: Sir John managed both. Kevin Keegan. his team manager, built a wild and crazy team that was soon every football supporter's second-favourite club.

Enter money. Football is passing — or perhaps has already passed — through a in which making money has, or had, all the problems and challenges of spearing fish in a barrel. Even unpopular and unsuccesful football clubs made fortunes. Others did rather better.

So in came such strange things as stock market flotations. I can tell you exactly what stock market flotations are all about. It means that love is demoted and money gets the job. Love and football still sit on the board, but money has the casting vote.

So Keegan had to go because he was getting a bit too wild and crazy for the cardiac health of future share-Dalglish to comfort them. Dalglish dismantled the championship-chasing team that everybody loved and put in its place relegation candidates. His graceless behaviour to Stevenage Borough turned the tide of national love against his team long before the latest excitements.

Douglas Hall, son of Sir

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

herd, the chairman, were re-World as men incapable of keeping either their mouths or their trousers zipped. Scandal and calamity. The problem?

Why, money, what else? Their reported sexual boasting had nothing to do with sensuality, still less love. They bragged about purchasing power. As with physical love, so it was with love of football. Love is something you can turn into money.

Power corrupts: purchasing power corrupts absolutely. All football will turn against these

Hall press conference Business Commentary 25

two men, for their claims that replica shirts were rubbish. Of course they are: their crime is not selling rubbish, but rocking the boat by saying so. What fan will buy a replica shirt now? Might as well have "I've been conned" tattooed on your forehead.

And so Hall and Shepherd had to go. Because football needs to clean up its act? Nope. The answer, once again, is money. Football needs to be Shareholders don't care about the moral substance of John and vice-chairman of Newcastle United plc. They

care about its image, the appearance of virtue is all that s required.

Shares in Newcastle United plc opened last year at 140p; last week they hit their lowest point of 85.5p. Now, after the resignations and the latest profit figures, they have clam-bered back to 100p. Vive le

Meanwhile, there are sugestions that Manchester United's failure to beat AS Monaco in the European Cup came down to a shareholderpleasing false economy. The priority was profit rather than football, so they never did buy the great striker who might have scored the goal that would have changed it all last week. Thus Manchester United lost glory and, with it, an awful lot of money.

When sport ceases to be an almost lunatic priority, then the yond you. That is true of individuals, true of organisations. If sport is no longer a lunatic priority, you begin to

The loveless pair of Hall and Shepherd stand for the vast gulf - the Grand Canyon that lies between football supporters and football boardmembers. Purchasing power has gone to their heads like

alcopoos at a teenage party.

They did not talk of love. Instead, they boasted about shafting: Penthouse Pets and football supporters both. They have ended up shafting their sport, their club and themselves. Dazzled by money, they lost sight of the reason for football and for football clubs. Which is love. Love of the game, love of the club. Let me close with the immortal words of Roger McGough, an epi-taph for Hall and Shepherd. And many others with them.

where between the belly and I lost the love some time ago, and I've only the act to

"The act of love lies some-



The Oxford crew, who had sand thrown at them from Hammersmith Bridge, await instructions before one of yesterday's pieces of work

Oxford combat power with technique

COMPARISONS between "buildogs and greyhounds" were freely made yesterday morning as the Boat Race crews went through their paces on the Tideway. Cambridge, with Crispin Page substituting for Toby Wallace. looked ominously powerful in two low-rate, five-minute pieces, particularly the first one, which was into a headwind. Interestingly, Robin Williams, the Cambridge coach, was not as impressed as some spectators.

Oxford, accompanied by their reserve crew, Isis, revealed a more willowy style, typical of many of the lightweight crews produced by Sean Bowden, their new coach, who was accompanied in the launch by Rene Mijnders, who filled the coaching role in 1997. Clearly, they agree that economy of effort and attention to detail is vital. Before rowing home, the crew undertook lengthy exercises in boat control before a continuous paddle from Chiswick to Putney,

interrupted by a shower of sand thrown from Hammersmith Bridge. Henrik Nilsson, the Swedish No 4, received the worst of it. After cleaning the scats and wheels, Oxford went flat out in a 3min 90sec row. The first was not overimpressive, the rate of 34 seeming somewhat forced; the second, from a dropping from 43 to a settled 3512.

For Cambridge's afternoon outing, Wallace was back on board after his malaise and he was eased back gently. Limiting themselves to occasional tenstroke bursts, the last at 35, the cover of the crew was impressive. Television viewers on Saturday will

receive a new stant on the contest. Korat, a specially designed catamaran, will keep pace with the crews for the first mile, providing side on pictures for the first time, assuming that a dummy run in the veterans' race on Friday is successful. Another innovation will be a coxswain's view of the course, which will be filmed by a mini

ATHLETICS: NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONS ARE LATEST VICTIMS OF FINANCIAL CRISIS

Shortage of funds bars route to Europe

bers, the 100 metres world

innior record-holder are

among those who would be denied the opportunity of ear-

Hansen's club, Shaftesbury

ly-season competition.

Chambers

By DAVID POWELL. ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE financial crisis in British athletics may cause the two senior clubs scheduled to represent Great Britain in Europe in May to pull out because they cannot afford to take part. Unless a solution is found in the next fortnight, it will be the first time in the 23-year history

of European men's club com-

petition that Britain will not be represented. UK Athletics 98. the interim company set up after the British Athletic Federation (BAF) went into administration last October. and the English Sports Counal (ESC), which distributes National Lottery funding, say there is nothing they can do.

"Flights are booked, but in two weeks we have to make a firm decision," Bill Laws, manager of Belgrave Harriers, the men's champions, said. "If we have not got the money, we cannot go. Ashia Hansen, who set a

Belgrade on the same weekworld indoor record in the

Geoff Morphitis, the Shaftesbury Barnet team

women's triple jump last manager, said: "It is outra-month, and Dwain Cham- geous that we should not have geous that we should not have this opportunity of a lifetime." The British League, without a sponsor, has reduced its grant by one third and the BAF. which typically gives £4,000 towards the men's champions'

Barnet, are the UK Women's costs, cannot spend against time and have qualified for the David Moorcroft, chief exec-European clubs championutive of UK Athletics 98, said: ship in Portugal on May 30. "UK Athletics 98 has a finite amount of money and there are a number of things we are competes for Belgrave Harriers, due in not able to fund this year and support to the clubs is one. It

administration."

shows the impact of being in

Howard Darbon, leader of said: "We do not have any funding for this purpose. This has to be seen in the light of two things. "First, a policy decision from the council some years

> of sports, not to get into funding club competition in Europe. It would be an enormous drain on resources. Second, a reducing exchequer funding programme that the English Sports Council faces along with all other public sector organisations."

ago, when it was faced with

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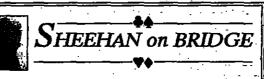
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all the above plus: air conditioning, electronically controlled ABS, electric external mirrors, leather covered steering wheel, alloy wheels, and a 4-speaker Sony radio/CD player.



CHANGING TIMES



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Zia Mahmood is a fine judge of when to use bluff bids, like phoney splinter and cue-bids, but he got out-spoofed on this hand. He was West, with Howard Cohen North, Arthur Goddard East and Frederic Wrang (TGR's No 2 Swede) South. Love all Rubber bridge

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North's Three Spade bid was a 'splinter" bid, supposedly showing heart support and a singleton spade. As it is the sort of thing that Zia does, other players try it when he is at the table. South's Four Clubs was a cue-bid showing first or second-round control

further infection by the Zia virus - and Zia's double ostensibly showed good clubs. That was harmless enough, by the way, as he knows that he will be on lead against a slam. Now, after Blackwood, North-South arrived in Six Spades, with most of the players in the

What should Zia lead? With

dark as to what was going on. Only Goddard had bid

for his double of Four Clubs to have any effect in the play, he clearly should not lead a club. A singleton trump lead is not attractive, so Zia led what looked like the safest suit — a spade — and, in case dummy's announced "singleton" was the queen, he tried the king. That showed class. This enabled declarer to take two

tricks in spades and a spade

ruff, to go with six heart tricks,

two diamonds and a club. Any

the diamonds not breaking, a

passive lead is indicated, and

non-spade lead beats the D Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

FILICIDE a Luckily b. A type of spider's web c. A child-killer

GALLOON b. A fool c. A ribbon trimming

GIMP 2. A dovetzil igint b. A hammer

c. A stomacher FACIA: a. Ornamental lettering b. Ribbon pasta

c. A shop sign



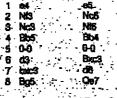
By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

The way ahead With possible deadlock in the resolution of the various claims to the world championship, Karpov retaining the Fide title and Kasparov being regarded by most observers as the legitimate champion, it is worth recalling how the ques-tion of lack of clarity in the destination of the world title

was settled 50 years ago. In 1946, Alexander Alekhine, the world champion, died in possession of the title. After a two year interregnum, a match tournament of five players was organised to determine the destination of the. championship. Mikhail Botvinnik, the Soviet grandmaster, came out the undisputed winner ahead of the other leading contenders of the day, namely Vassily Smyslov, Samuel Reshevsky, Paul Keres and Max Euwe, the former world champion Such a format would be well worth consideration to resolve

he present difficulties. Here is one of Botvinnik's best wins from the 1948 event. White: Mikhail Botvinnik Black: Samuel Reshevsky Hague/Moscow world championship, 1948

Four Knights Game



By Raymond Keene

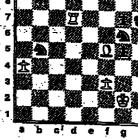
Black to play. This position is from the game Dyce — Mc-Donald, England, 1998. Black has the opportunity to play a discovered check (moving one niece to expose the opponent's

king to a check from a piece lurking behind, How did he make the most of this device?

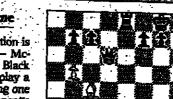
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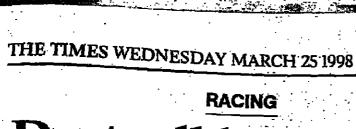
partnal success

Res Kh7



☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.





.Dartnall hunts more success under Rules

ROBERT ALNER completed his climb from point-to-point-ing to the summit of National Hunt racing when Cool Dawn won the Cheltenham Gold Cup last week. Victor Dartnall will begin his own journey when he applies for a trainer's licence in June.

Alner trained and rode many-point-to-point winners before turning professional. His achievement serves as an example of what can be built on humble beginnings. Meanwhile, the hunting and pointto-pointing communities are delighted that one of their advocates has a place among jump racing's elite.

Based in North Devon. Darmall has an outstanding record in hunt racing. He began with a handful of pointers in 1995 and has saddled 75 winners from just 135 runners, a phenomenal strike-rate in an increasingly

competitive sport.

He has twice trained the winner of the Grand Marnier Award, given to the season's most successful pointer, and last year landed the trophy for saddling the most hunter chase winners. His rivals could be forgiven for breathing a sigh of relief when he announced his decision to challenge the professionals.

"I enjoy point-to-pointing, but it has a long break from June to January," Dartnall said. "I hope to have about ten horses when I start and with luck it will build up."

By CARL EVANS

A former amateur rider and one-time farm manager, Dartnall realised his dream to train horses after his brotherin-law, Nick Viney, sold the family business. With some of that cash plus Dartnall's savings, a cottage near Barnstaple was converted into a house and stables, and an all-

weather gallop installed. Many new owners have since joined the yard, but if the Viney-owned pair of Sliev-enamon Mist or King Torus should win the Fox Hunters' Chase at Aintree next week, it would be a fitting note to end this period in their partnership.

"In a way it will be a relief to change codes and start at the bottom again," he said, "Most of my runners seem to start at odds-on and that creates pres-



Dartnall: fine record

sure. People start saying there's something wrong if one of them gets beaten."

Dartnall is not alone in harbouring ambitions under Rules. Mark Jackson, who saddled Grimley Gale to finish fourth to Earthmover at Cheltenham last week, has a small string in Herefordshire and hopes to make his name this summer.

it is a similar story in Cheshire, where Richard Ford, an excellent amateur rider who won the Aintree Fox Hunters' on Rolling Ball, is putting together a string of firm-ground pointers which he hopes will make its mark in

summer jumping.
Aided by his wife, Carrie,
Ford saddled 14 winners from
34 runners in points out of his Tarporley yard last season, and while a gremlin has affected the string this year, he is in no doubt about the virtues of experiencing racine's highs and lows from the pointing field.

"I do teel you learn more doing it this way than by being an assistant trainer or through being born with a silver spoon in your mouth," he said. Assuming we're granted a licence, we're looking forward to giving it a crack - and if it fails we can always come back to training pointers."

Whatever Ford's fate, he. Darmall and Jackson have proved themselves and so have their horses. Punters

and manuber. Six-figure ham (F — left. P — d up U — unspealed noter B — broughd 5 - silipped up. B — religied. D — affield). Horse's name. Days since lead ; F of flat. B — blankers V — wsor. H — E — Eyeshield. C — coarse wonder. D — co whener. CD — coarse and distance

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BETTIMO: 5-4 Million Rivers, 5-2 Capenstay, 4-1 Persymbor Prince, 11-2 Lance Amstroog, 33-1 Rocqui 1997: THUMBS UP 11-11-11 R Hobses (9-4) G McCostl 4 ran

Lance Armstrong 171 4th ol 7 to Easthorpe in handicap chase at Marten Resen (2m 41, good). Melecroft Riviera unseated rider in handicap chase at Winterston (2m 51, good); previously beat Channel Pusitine 141 in 5-purpler landicap chase at Rempton (2m 41 110yd, good to lami). Permymonor Phrose putilised up in movice handicap chase at Rempton (2m 41 110yd, good to lami). Staunch Friend 21 in 11-numer review chase at Windson (2m 51, good to soft). Capernaray 15i 5th ol 7 to. Calm. Down in navice handicap chase at Warwick (2m 41 110yd, soft).

CAPENWRAY is progressive and found the ground loo solt last time

1987: TINOTOPS 7-12-3 Mess S Victory (5-2 tax) Mrs R Victory 12 tan

Beau Babilland 11 2nd of 9 to Cavalero in hunter chase at Taunton (4m 21 110yd, good). Apatura (3mg 32) 7th of 14 to Struggles Sorrel TB putled up in novice chase at Mewton Abbot (3m 21 10yd, heavy), prevously 311 4th of 7 to Poucher in novice handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 51 110yd, heavy)

REALI RARN LARD has in he the choice after his nin at Taught

| 117 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148

Long transfers; Saeli 9-8. Karicheyn Boy 9-5, Kaskim 8-9.

BETTING: 7-2 Magai Allen, 5-7 Common Boulevard, Prote Ol Kaskiur, 7-1 Mr Payholl 8-1 Va Uhu, 10-1 ohess

1997: COOL GURNER 7-11-10 C Maude (7-4 tar) J King 7 cm

GOLDWYN could be a shread selection with the stable back in form

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Uttoxeter

Going: good (good to soil in places)

scong: godo igodo to soli in paces; 2.20 (2m hdle) 1. Segala (R McGrath, 3-1); 2. Charle Chang (7-1); 3. Catempo (11-1) Newtondge Boy (5th) 11-4 fav 9 ran, AR Northern Measthe, Regal Rambler 41, 181 J J O'Nelli Tote: 53,00 £1,40, C1 50, 62 50 DF £13,60 Tiro: £88,90 CSF: £21,07 Tircast £176,27.

5-25 (3m 2) ch) 1, Lottery Ticket (5 Wynne, 5-2); 2, Dark Dak (4-1); 3, Farney Gion (7-4 1av), 4 (sn., 2), 71 T George, Tote £3 40, DF 56 70 CSF £10.37.

250 Cm hole) 1, Blowing Away (R Thomson, 11-4 lad; 2, Michagan Blue (14-1); 3, Select Star (8-1), 15 ran, NR. Kanal, Venica Beach, Woodkand Dove, 4, 1141 M Tomplers, Tote £3.30 £1.70, £3.90, £2.90 DF, £35 10, Tric £143 10, CSF, £36 15.

3.50 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Bold Classic (5 kelly, 7-2); 2, Smith Too (5-1); 3, Bullers Bey (7-2); Fladey Wood (6th) 100-30 lav 8 ran. 8), 21, J. Adem. Tote: 13.90, 21.50, 21.70. DF: £11.70. CSF: £19.89 Theast: £59.22

A 20 (2m 41 ch) 1. The Next Waltz (R Supple 2-1 fav); 2. Dregons Bay (5-2); 3, Deet Ouay (14-1) 9 ran. MF: The Cockerton. 4] 81 L. Lungo Totar 22 60, 21.40, 21.50, £4.40. DF; £3.50. The £33.40 CSF, £7.17 Tricast £49.19

4.50 (2m of 110gd hole) 1, Sun Alert (R Thomton, evens tay); 2; Barton Chic (12-1); 3; (Only (7-2) 11 ran, 194, dast M Poligiase, Tota; (2) 0, £1.20, £2.50, £1.46 DF; £18.50, Tido £9.20, GSF, £16.89,

Quadpot: £4.70.

Jacknot: £751.50.

429 26.4 22.2 18.6 15.6

TRAINERS

DF: 11.90. CSF: 24.50.
S.40 CSM: 21 10 pd ride) 1, The Newsaman (O Burrows, 3-1); Z. Gran Turismo (J-2); 3, Silerd Cradder (T-2) Near Fast (47th) 5-2 livs. 14 ran NRt: Chemy Lee, Supar Mac 28tl, 14. S Edwards, Toles: 24.65 E.50, E.13.0, E.13. DF 210.50. Trio. C15.80 CSF: 215.99.

OF TIDGU. THO. Principle Music (Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Music (Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Music (Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principle Music (Mr A. Principle Mr A. Principl

4.40 (2m 8f 110yd heig) 1, Belmore Rock (J Louer, 100-30); 2, Belmore (15-6 tor); 3, Smaggler's Point (10-1), 8 ran NPF Equally 3, Dering, 114, 51 M Pice Tore: £4 30, £1.50, £1.10, £2.70, DF: £7 40 CSF £10.15

RICHARD EVANS

(4.50 Exeter)

Nap: Goldwyn

Goldwyn needed his recent

seasonal reappearance at Seasonal reappearance at Season but is fairly handing a supprison decreased a surprison decreased a

NB: Mammy's Choice

(3.40 Towcester)

Placenot: £77.50

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

3.30 (3m ch) 1, Flapjack Lad (C Lieuwilyn, 7-1); 2, Meneronac (2-1 fav); 3, Mister Blaks (4-1), 8 mm, 2, 181 N Twister-Davies Toxe; 65.90; C1.80, 21 10, 21.60, Dr. 52.70, 7 cc; 55.00; C5F, 520.40 Tricest E58.78.
4.00 (2m 110, 4 dole) 1, Permine Secret (A P McCoy, 8-13 fav); 2, Sumfse Special (10-1); 3, Buy My Ply (33-1), 8 mm, 31, 281, M Plot, Toker 51.30; E1.10, C2.20, C6.20, DF; E1.10 CSF; E7.70.
4.30 (3m ch) 1, Precurium (Mr J M Printrard, 14-1); 2, Holland House (5-4); 3, Double Sid (4-6 fav), 8 mm 131, dist. Mis N Sheppard, Toter £15.10; £4.30, £1.10, DF; 59.30, CSF 234 18.

\$9.50, CSF £34 18
5.00 (2m 110)rd fast 1, Rio's king (R.
Belarny, 6-1); 2, North Tyme (6-1); 3;
Medium Wave (16-1), Mite Equal 4-1 fav. 16
can. 191, 191, J. Tuck, Tota: £7.10; \$2.00, £2.00, £8.70, DF: £13.60, Thio: £157.50, CSE. pag. 19.

Placepot: 527.40. Quaripot: £16.00.

Going: good to firm
2.10 (2m 2: 110)rd hole) 1, Cipriani Gissen
2.10 (2m 2: 110)rd hole) 1, Cipriani Gissen
(P. Hide, 4-1); 2, Night in A. Million (8-1); 3,
Auricante serre (11-2). Caracol (4m) 7-2 (ser.
9 cm. 2, hol. 3 (Sircol, Tota St. 20; 52 10,
7-3.00, 51.80, DF: 216.70, Trio 502.70, CSS:
528.25, Titrast: F121.19.

26.28. Tricsst: F121.19.
2.40 (2m 21 ch) 1. Beyond Our Reach (1) Henris, 4-71; 2. Sessinghurst Pyer (4-1); 3. Henris, 5-2 (3m, 8) (3m, 91; 20); C1.20, C1.

CSF: 235.12.

Fontwell

4.50 ROBERT WEBS TRAVEL HANDICAP HURDLE (#2,548: 2m 2f) (12 sunners)

4.20 ROBERT WEBB TRAVEL OPEN HUNTERS CHASE



Lannkaran provides Tony McCoy with the first leg of a double in the Beagles Novices' Hurdle at Chepstow yesterday, enabling the champion jockey to equal Peter Scudamore's record of 221 winners in a National Hunt season. He later won the Court Selling Hurdle in typical style, making all the running on the Martin Pipe-trained Pomme Secret. McCoy's

Soung on which horse hits, work (F — firm, good to firm, hand, 6 — good, 5 — sett, good or sett, heavy). Owner in brackets. Tother. Age and weight. Ridder plus any allowance Timebooper's speed rating.

only chance to break the record, in the concluding National Hunt flat race, disappeared in the home straight as his mount. Mite Equal, faded three furlongs from home. "I had my first day off this season on Monday, and have been very lucky to steer clear of all injuries and suspensions since the season started - touch wood," McCoy said. When asked about the prospect

of reaching 300 winners before the end of the season, he replied: "Obviously I am going to set new figures unless something happens, but 300 winners in a season? I have got more chance of flying to the moon!" With five rides at Ludlow today, McCoy is confident that he will break the record. "I should do it in the first race. as Doctoor has a winning chance."

2.50 Happy Horse 4.20 Somel Hill Timekeeper's top rating: 3.50 CAPENWRAY. Carl Evans: 4.20 Apatura King.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.20 ROBERT WEBS TRAVEL MOVICES SELLING HURDLE

Ballos besien a distance 7th of 13 to Shore Party in novice hundle if a Tanaton (3to 110yd, good to set). (Jing 0f The Blues 14 2nd of 110yd, good) with Ballos (10th better oil) field. Obelos 377 9th of 14 b Pride of Kastanic in novice hundless hundless hundless from 2th 3f 110yd, good). Thomas Crown 71 2nd of 7 to Tudos Falcon in selling hundless hundless hundless hundless hundless hundless from 11 110yd, beavy). Miss Onder 4f 2nd of 9 to Merawang in selling hundless I Tanaton (2to 11, good to sell) with Persistance Pays (1th worse oil) 691 6th. MISS ONDEE is the clear form choice on her Taumion effort

2.50 AXWORTHYS PRINT AND DESIGN HANDICAP HURDLE

201 45-200 GLYMBPAN 7 (B.F.S) (J. Neville) J. Neville 11-11-10 L. Pitcher (7)
202 DSF1051 TILTY 7 (V.D.F.G.S) (Cheadle Rusion) A Streets 8-11-7 (Sed. R. Johnson's
203 -9CSP2F PERMYALER 7 (B. der A Toyton') P. Hobbs 8-11-4 ... T. J. Maryothy
204 23-12-5 RELATIVE CHANGE 12 (B) (thes S Dougles-Potcard) J. Ning 9-10-13 W. Marstan
205 -6PSF0 COLUMERY STORE 55 (S) (Westlield Facing) A P. Jones 9-10-5 ... S. Michell
206 2304552 BELLY LERA 15 (P. Rodford) F. Dougles 9-10-5 ... S. Michell
207 0094000 HAPPY HORSE 47 (D.F.G.S) (Major I. Marnolng) N. Hawter 11-10-0 P. Holley

Long handicap: Happy Horse 9-3. BETTING. 10-11 TRy, 5-T Relative Chance, 6-1 Olympian, 7-1 Pennisia, 6-1 Bally Line, 16-1 others. 1997: SNOW BOARD 8-10-9 D Syme (9-2) Mrs M Janes 10 ran

Tilly beat Equity's Darling 71 in 15-runner handlesp burdle in Humbrogdon (3m 21, good) with Olympian (3lb better oil) 391 12th.

Pennsaler fell in handleap chase at Newton Abbut (3m 21 110)d.

polity, previously 141 2nd oil 8 to Majors Legacy in novice handleap chase at Newton Abbut (3m 2) 110)d.

pelative Cinance 331 Sin oil 12 to The Promis in handleap handle at Sandown (2m 6i, soil) Bailly Lina.

291 2nd oil 10 to Edmand us novice foundle at Dester (3m 21, soil).

TILTY is taken to supplement Hundingdon gains 3.20 HEAVITREE BREWERY CHALLENGE CUP NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,630: 2m 71 110yd) (14 rugners)

CHASE (\$4,630: 2m 71 110yd) (14 runners)

301 0F8212 SAXON DURC 18 85.5; (Secon Duis Pres) P Habbs 7-11-10 Mr R Widger (7)

302 07:7120 TOSKARO 96 (7) (Berlsher Components Lin) 0 Williams 6-11-10 P Hamley (3)

303 4354-51 EAP FROG 19 (R Cooper) N Gaselor 7-11-8 — R Johnson

304 0F92-292 Mill LEROFT REGATTA 66 (1 Carbe) R Aberl 5-11-4 — A Thomson

305 02294-6 BULE LAWS 16 (R GG) L Homber | Machine 5-11-4 — A Thomson

306 12-473 BASKILINO 22 (F.B.S) (Alex 6 Phillips) T Forsto 6-11-1 S Wyster

307 1-7-50FF GEHMAN'S WAGER 22 (G) (B & Done S Notatos) M Camplers 8-11-1 L Hervey

309 379-355 TOUR LEADER 15 (F.S) (J Garl R Backlar 9-11-0 B Powed
309 379-355 TOUR LEADER 15 (F.S) (J Garl R Backlar 9-11-0 B Powed
310 4005P MTO THE WEE 14 (B.S) (F SainSury) Mrs M Jones 7-10-5 G Sample (5)

311 0R-PREP RATHACAL 19 (S P Lansdown Rackag) M Heston-28ts 7-10-2 9 Turmey

312 /35-812 BARDOMELLI 18 (Gr P Lansdown Rackag) M Heston-28ts 7-10-2 W Marshyn

313 4-34793 RAGTIME BOY 34 (S) (Mrs J Carbe) C Brown 10-10-2 1 Lansverse

314 5400LPF MODDADAMTE 20 (G) (N Machell N Malchell B-10-0 Mr C Rec

1997: TRUST DEED 9-10-7 D Salter (14-1) S Weight 14 cas 1997: TRUST DEED 9-10-7 D Salter (14-1) 5 Knight 14 cas

BAGALINO can be fancied now his stable has returned to form

Chepstow

Goting: good to solt
2.90 (2m 110yd hale) 1, Lanniceran (A P
AcCop, 8-5 law), 2, Supreme Genoin (7-2);
3, New Resing (14-1) 16 ran, 24, 2, Cept 17
Forster, 10to (21 0), 21 50, 21 70, 23 40, DF:
24.00, Tric 218.90 CSF 127
2.30 (2m 31 110yd ch) 1, Frys No Foot (C)
Lewedyn, 7-2 | 1-5an/, 2, Chieff 9 ran, NR; Out
3, Super Pitchart (7-2 | 1-5an/, 2 m), R. Out
C The Base 1 141 181, J Old, Tola: 25,10;
21.50, (2.00, 12:00, DF, 20:80 Trics:
15.51, C2.00, 12:00, DF, 20:80 Trics:
15.53, CSF 237 99, Tricsst; E749 97.
3,00 (2m af 110yd role) 1, Deymir (R)

200 St. CSP 123 99. (Ficast £ 143 91.) 3.00 (2m of 110/of ndle) 1. Deymier (R Durwoody, 7-2), 2. Spring Grass (4-1); 3, 5 on Of Anshan (11-4), D'Naen (Sth) 2-1 key, 7 ren 2i hd. D Gandollo, Tote \$4,70; £1.90, \$2.80, OF £11 20 CSF: £17.62.

RACELINE

FUIL RESULTS SERVICE 168

MOTOM

102 202 103 203 120 220

LUDLOW

THUNDERER 2.00 Doctoor. 2.30 Bold Statement. 3.00 Flowing Fortune. 3.30 Oakmont. 4.00 PHILATELIC (nap). 4.30 Cabin Hill. 5.00 Alta. Carl Evans: 4.30 Always Remember.

GOING; GOOD

2.00 SELFTON CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,253. 2m) (8 runners)

2 4001 BLADE OF FORTUNE 20 (0.5) // Greenary 10-11-6
3 5-R* TREMEMONTO 225 (9.0.5) D McClan 3 -11-6. C Uterellyn
4 0066 NRN/RAIA PRINCESS 22 B Protec 6-11-5. J Moojtord (7) 80
5-P.P. GREEN KRRG 35 (8) D Burchel 6-11-2. D J Burchel
5 P20P PRIENIU Y HOUSE 20 (5) M Pipo 9-11-0. J Lower
7 P044 AMI ACCE 5 (D.F.G) 5 Melor 9-10-9. C Webb (3) 90
6 535-LASER LIGAT LADY 4F M Maring 6-10-9. R Betamy 4-7 Doctoot, 6-1 Anlace, 7-1 Blade Of Forume 8-1 Friendly House 14-1 Internation 25-1 Green King, Lazer Light Lady, 33-1 Kinama Princess.

2.30 ASTON MUNSLOW NOVICES CHASE (£2,710, 2m 4f) (9)

11-8 Edid Statement, 11-4 Mad For Adventure, 11-2 Desert Calm, 13-2 others.

3.00 BUNDY EUROPE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-0: £2.684; 2m) (8) BETTING: 5-2 Beau Bebahari, 7-2 Seint Joseph, 4-1 Sorrei Hill, 5-7 Aprenia King, 8-1 Abbaistam, 10-1 citiess

O. SCENOR: SOVERBEN 29 (0.5) R Malendard 11-5. G Lyons 99
12 PETITE MSR, 11 (BF.G) M Pice 11-2. A P MacDay 1222 CYPERTEC-MANDLOSY (60F Mrs.) Cock (6-12. R Dummont) — R. NAMER FOR THE FORM 10-12. A Williamson — OS GOLDEN SADOLE 46F D Works 10-12. A Williamson — THE ROLLINGS SSF R J Pice 10-7. D Gallagine — LOCHARS SSF R J Pice 10-7. B Festion — SUPSTHEAM STAR 142F K Taxson-Daves 16-7. C Linnellyn — 10-11 Poste Res., 9-2 Sincheam Sur., 5-1 Constitution 12, 8-1 Figure Forum 10-1 Stellan Soverego, 20-1 The Roundwille, 35-1 Colom Statute, Location

3.30 RACING CHANNEL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,736 2m) (7)

6-4 Mages, 5-2 Professoral Proper 5-1 Eten Al Habric 7-1 Sarkey 8-1 others.

TOWCESTER

Crandon Boulevard 18/78 of 14 to Dires in Itandicao Introlle al Wincanton (2m, good). Pride Of Kashmiri bud Reach The Clouds net. in 14-namer nonce handicap hurdle at Taurion (2m, good). Wincanton (10 to Sternwillen Rose in trottle at Connet (2m, good to soft). Mr Playfull (ell in handicap chase at Wincanton (2m 51, fkm); previously beat Distant Memory 21 in 6-tunner handicap chase at Newton Abbul (2m 51, ftm); previously beat Distant Memory 21 in 6-tunner handicap chase at Newton Abbul (2m 51, ftm); previously beat Distant Memory 21 in 6-tunner handicap chase at Newton Abbul (2m 51, ftm); previously beat Distant Memory 21 in 6-tunner handicap hurdle at Taurion (2m 31, ftm); product soft). Yet Util 19/12 and 117 to Viscount Tully in setting handicap hurdle at Lucitow (2m 51, ftm); product form THINDERER Carl Evans: 4,40 Reign Dance.

1 1.P- REARLESS WONDER 495 (0.5) 9 8-22 7-12-9

47 Wayters Way 7-2 Es A Gen. 4-1 States: 35-1 Wide Warnate 3.10 LITCHBOROUGH HANDICAP HURDLE

TRANSPERS: D. Nachmeren., 28 istances: from 57 juniors., 41 8%, R. Cords, 6 from 19, 31.5%; Mess V. Velkarns, 5 from 16, 31.3%. List M. James, 6 from 20, 30.0%; G. L. Moore, 3 from 12, 25.5%. J. Cords, 5 from 30, 20.0%; G. L. Moore, 3 from 12, 25.5%. M. A. Fitzgarald, 12 from 62, 19.5%; R. Farsel, 6 from 32, 15.5%; G. Bradley, 5 from 32, 15.5%; R. Farsent, 4 from 27, 14.5%.

4.00 BUNDY UK HANDICAP CHASE

2-9,002.3 307 (7)

2 S-PP_JACOB'S WRE 14 (6) PR Wester 8-11-10

3 S-PP_JACOB'S WRE 14 (6) PR Wester 8-11-11

3 2-22 MERBERT BUCHANNA 220 (8F.F.6) P Month: 2:11-7

4 PDS TELLOHERRY 27 (C.6) Macs H Import 9-11-5

5 3132 PHILATELIC 27 (8F.S.) R Month 9-11-5

5 3132 PHILATELIC 27 (8F.S.) R Month 8-10-6

5 5050 90%E SETTER 37 (C.F.S.) S Melter 8-10-6

C Weeb (3) 107

7 5240 MECALE JUE 9 (8.F.G.S.) M Tate 12-10-2

R Bellsmy 116 9-4 Hard Woven 7-2 Horbort Buchanan, Protetein: 6-1 Tollacherry 8-1 Nacht Joe 10-1 Bone Sester, 16-1 Jacob's Wife

4.30 MAGNUS-ALLCROFT MEMORIAL TROPHY HUNTERS CHASE (£1,607: 2m 4f) (15)

1 ASSP KING OF SHADOWS 40 (D.F.G) C Camber 11-12-2 Mr S Prior (7) 80 2 PPUS MY MONAREE 19 (B.C.D.F.G.S) D Michaels 10-12-7 Mr R Burton (7) 100 3 -125 GREAT GUSTO 9 (CD.F.G) Miss t Blackbord 12-12-4 (Missing CD) 3 -125 GREAT GUSTO 9 (CD.F,G) Mics 1. Blackbord 12-12-4 Mics 1. Blackbord (7) Mics 1. Blackbord (8) Mics 1. Blackbord (8) Mics 1. Blackbord (9) Mics 1. Blackbord (7) Mics 1. Bl 1.1 42.5 WHITERS CITTAGE 15 (F) M Lloyd 10-12-0 Mr & Harener (7) —
15 UP-6 THORNHUL 39P F Mamper; 8-11-9 Mr \$ J Graham (7) 80

5.00 LUDLOW STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1.308: 2m) (18) AT RACE (£1.308: 2m) (18)

10 WESTHED MIST 86 (0.1) P Eccles 6-11-6

0 BARSHA HOUSE 78 A Carroll 6-11-4

COMMANDER LAW Y Battey 5-11-4

DIAMNY DOLLTILE 20 P JUDICION 5-11-4

URE SHELLE 20 P R Newber 5-11-4

AUTH SHELLE 20 P R Newber 5-11-4

AUTH N THEODOLD P WEDDOWN 5-11-4

AUTH N THEODOLD P Newber 5-11-1

AUTH N THEODOLD P NEWBER 5-11-1

LINDAS VERITURE A Carroll 5-10-13

O SHY LEADER 19 Mirs J Coccl 5-10-13

O SHY LEADER 19 Mirs J Coccl 5-10-13

O SHY LEADER 19 Mirs J Coccl 5-10-13

O SHY MIST CECILIA 32 B Eckley 5-10-13

O THE BIG ROCKETTE 40 M Meagins 5-10-13

INFY MODORUM 6-10-10

RESSION (C. Larbean 4-10-10

D WOODBURY HILL 18 A James 4-10-10

WOODBURY HILL 18 A James 4-10-10 A F McCoy C Webb (3)

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: 14 Proc. 23 symmetr from 92 number: 25 0% k Bailey, 16 from 74, 21 6% P Highelia, 7 from 35, 20 0%, S Buodichew, 3 from 16, 18 9%, Mass P Wrotte, 4 from 22, 18 2% JOCKEYS: A P. McCoy, 17 regulars from 65 rides 36.2%, R. Domanoody, 14 from 54.25.9%, J. Lower, 4 from 16, 25.0%, N. McGliamson, 9 from 48, 16.8%, D. J. Bunchelf, 4 from 24, 16.7%

3.40 FARTHINGSTONE HANDICAP CHASE

1 5727 RAMALIAN 13 (C.G.S) 15rc by kinght 9-11-10 M. A Pitzperald 2 4311 MANAMYS DEDICE 30 (G.S.) R. Arice B-11-9 R. Thomson 3 5126 FORTUNES COURSE 20 (C.D.F.S.) J. King 3-17-7 Mr. O McPhal (S.) 4 3460 COMPRIME LAWE 15 (C.D.G.S) 45r S - 10re 11-15-7 R. Guerd 5 UT23 LAY IT OF 18 (F.G.S.) 10 West 9-10-12 S Curran 5 - 614 S MONY SOARD 32 (R.C.F.S) Mr. J. Lawer 9-10-11 M. Brasson (S) 7 .15- MONA CHAMP 319 (BF.D.G.) 48r S S.m.th 10-10-9 R. Williamson (S)

5-2 Regulator 7-2 Mammy's Choice, Fortunes Course, Snow Board, 6-1 others.

| 152,600; 2m) (15) | 156E GUEST ALLIANCE 47 (5) 6 L Moore 6-11-10 | M. A. Fazgerlaid 2225 REACH THE CLOUDS 74 (6) J Upzon 6-11-10 | H. Supple 26 ORG THE NI-ANYS 20 O Sharmond 4-11-5 | M. R. Fazgerlaid 5-55P3 ARCHE AFFAR 22 P Recrea 5-11-2 | M. R. Fazgerlaid 5-55P3 ARCHE AFFAR 22 P Recrea 5-11-2 | M. R. Fazgerlaid 5-55P3 ARCHE AFFAR 22 P Recrea 5-11-2 | M. R. Smith 7-040P DEUGHTER BLAW 19 Miss (Care 5-10-12 | M. R. Wakey (5) | 8-554 STUDIO THRITY 9 (6,S) R Discho 6-10-12 | M. R. Wakey (6) | 8-554 STUDIO THRITY 9 (6,S) R Discho 6-10-12 | M. Azguru (3) | 9-6004 ODERIOGE LADY 37 N Narian-Easter 7-7-6-8 | C Maune 10-10 | M. C. Wakey (7) | M. A. Grand (7)

5-1 States Thank, 6-1 keedbary, Resen The Clouds Audio Affair 19-1 others

4.40 EMPRESS ELIZABETH OF AUSTRIA OPEN

2-1 Lockmayran 10G-3D Activitie 4-1 Respn Dance 6-1 Strang, 10-1 others

5.10 GRIMSCOTE NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES

5-2 Top Note, 5-1 Microscot, 6-1 Palo Ridge, 7-1 Mines's Bill, 10-1 others.

W Worthington
D O'Sulfyen
G Meude
R Studininge (5)
J Mager (3)
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7. STUTE TELLISON in the Floor, 4-1 Max Brederill 5-1 Mathetic, 7-1 Potacyn, 10-1 photo.

Tollett set for return to league

RUGBY LEAGUE: Tulsen Tollett, who switched codes with Harlequins last year. is likely to make a surprise return for London Broncos in the Silk Cur Challenge Cup semi-final against Wigan Warriors at Huddersfield on Sunday. His appearance at stand-off half, rather than in Harlequins' Allied Dunbar Premiership match at home to Gloucester the same day, could be the prelude to him rejoining

the Broncos permanently. RUGBY UNION: Cheltenham beat Trent. Nottingham, in the final of the festival competition the tournament for schools which play only one term of rugby each year at the Rosslyn Park Sevens. Superior pace and power were the foundation of Cheltenham's convincing 29-17 victory with Simon Danielli, the England Under-18 wing, completing an impressive hat-trick. Toki Adebayo, the younger brother of the Bath and

England wing. Adedayo

Adebayo, scored two tries.

■ NETBALL: Naomi Siddall, who gave up the chance of a place in Cambridge's women's Boat Race crew, and Tracy Bartram, who has returned after recovering from an ankle stress fracture, have both been included in the England squad that left for a two-week tour of Malaysia and Australia last night. BING AND SQUAD: F Munogh Essex Met., L Law Fissex Met.), A Newton Essex Met., N Andrews (Surrey), L Carpenier (Surrey), C Mortimer (Surrey), K Aspinali (Dertyshree), O Murphy (Dertyshree), T Bartam (Middlesen, L Sdan (Middlesen), J Zimzan (Middle Ser), T Newtile (Gloucestrishree), N Seddall (Herts), L Stanley (North Durham)

■ SNOOKER: Fergal O'Brien justified his wildcard inclusion in the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters by beating Peter Ebdon 6-2 for a place in the quarter-finals at Goffs, Co Kildare, yesterday.

FIXTURES

Kick-off 7 S0 unless stated international matches Czech Republic v Ireland im Prague, 4 0) Northern Ireland v Slovakia

Normen (leann o slovara far Windsor Park, 8 0) . Scotland v Dermank (ar throx, 8 0) . Swazerland v England (at the Wankdorf Stadium, Berne, 7 0) Weles v Jamaice (at Ninan Park, 70) Nationwide League

Milly/all v Preston (7 45) Vauxhall Conterence Gateshead v Stalybridge (7 45) Bell's Scottish League Second division Livingston v Queen of South . .

Morecambe v Woking (7 45)

Morecambe v Wolking (7 45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Dartiord v Fareham, Havani v
Marquie Midland division: RC Warwick v
Hind-ley Uno, Wisboch Tevnin v Moor Geen
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division.
Banop Auduland v Spernymoor First
division: Whitiby v Stocksbridge PS Unifilial
first division Cup: Sern-final, second leg:
Bradford Park Ave Ct v Traillord (1)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First
division: Southampton v Portstal Palace
(7 15), Windscoon v Warberd (at Pough
Lane, 2 0)

Staplewood FCI: Swindon v Crystal Palace 7 151, Wimbledon v Warford (at Plough Lane, 2 0)
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Mancreater Utd v Liverpool (at Bury, 7 0)
Normicham Forest v Shelfeet Wednesdey, 7 0) First division: Boon v Hudderstey (at Leigh PMI) 7 0; Gramby v Madderstey todgif (7 0), Part Vale v Manchesster Cy, (7 0) Second division: Burildy v Lincoln (7.1), Stockpon v Rochale (at Hyde thd 70), voir v Blascopool (7 0). Third division Checter v Bury (7 0), Hull v Cresteries (7 0), Scottonugh v Donasteries (17 0), Wigna v Scurdinorpe (7 0). League Cup Quarter-fant, Weedman v Derby (7 o).
LEAGUE OF WALES: Cacmarton Commers Bay (7 46)
HIGHLAND LEAGUE. Elgin v Fores. Mechanics, Rothes v Broad.
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Minston, Shoppey v Whitsiable Town ScreWHX O'RECT LEAGUE. Premier division: Tufficy v Huller Winston, Shoppey v Whitsiable Town ScreWHX DIRECT LEAGUE. Premier division: Shoppey v Whitsiable Town ScreWHX DIRECT LEAGUE. Premier division: Bankaple v Tomington Taumten.
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MINETON SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS.
O'Bnon Butchers Trophy Semi-final replace Reservs Sonda v Book House.

O'Brien Butchers Triphy Semi-final re-play Brachs Sparia / Book House ENDSISON INSURANCE INDICAND COMBINATION Premier division: Wa-Cotate of Fronte

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First
division: Hazingdon v kidsgrow ProsouCables v Warring in

ESSEX SENTOR LEAGUE: Premier divisions in Addition Life Concord Reproson.

vision: Basidon II or Concard Ranger; JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-vision: Ecod-enhars y Totion: UNLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEA-GUE: Premier division: Samford y GUE: Promor anxion: Samora 7 Exercitory UNILET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE. First division: Yelk v Pagham NOFTHERIN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby v Amshorpe Yiellan, Shehiold v Engg Town THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Fath-round replay: Blackburn v Chelsea.

RUGBY UNION Allied Dumbar Premiership First division

Newcastle v Saracens (7 30).......... REPRESENTATIVE MATCH, North Midlends.v RAF (a) Moselev, 7 (30) BUSA CHAMPIONSHIP: Finals; Men; Northumbria University / Linversity of Wales, Saconsea (a Tanchemham, 3/1) Wales, Cardin v Edinburgh University of Wales, Cardin v Edinburgh University (al Twickenham, 1/1) NATIONAL SCHOOLS SEVENS (at Dercha Dorth.

OTHER SPORT

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budwesser League: Crystal
Palace v London Towers (8 0), Leoparde,
Walford Royals (7 30); Marichester Gentle v
Barmighom Bullets (7 30); Dotby Storm v
Thames Valley Tigers (8 0)
GOLF: Sunningdial fourstmess
RIGBY LEAGUE: Cub matches, Balley v
RAF (7 30); Cestatord v Otcham (7 30);
SNOOKER: Berson and Hedges Insh
Matter (a) GOTS, Co Nidder)
SPEEDWAY: Speedway Star Carr Moore SPEEDWAY: Speedway Star Gupt King's Lynn v Ipsurch (7 45) SOLIASH: British Open pre-qualification (at Lambs Club, London)

oute to

FOOTBALL: ENGLAND COACH LIKELY TO TRY SHEARER AND OWEN PAIRING WHILE SCOTLAND GIVE FIRST START TO LEICESTER DEFENDER

Hoddle lingers in downbeat mode

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ACROSS the River Aare, on the opposite bank to the snowtinged spires of the old town. there is a pit where bears have been baited since the 15th century. They still keep some captive there as a rather forlorn, ambling monument to the heritage of the city. For a bit of old-fashioned baiting. though, they have to look

Yesterday in a first-floor salon at a hotel across the road from the railway station. Glenn Hoddle settled neatly into the old tradition by trussing himself up against a stake of his own making. He opened himself up to all sorts of pushing and prodding and turned what should have been

TEAMS

NGLAND (probable; 3-5-2): T Flowers Blackburn Rovers; — M Keown Wsersi), R Ferdinand; (West Hamided), G Southgate (Aston Villa) — S IcManaman (Liverpool). D Batty lewcastle United), P Ince (Liverpool). Merson (Middlestrough), A Hinch-iffe (Sheifleld Wednesday) — A hearer (Newcastle United), M Owen Wenool)

Switzerland (robable, 3-4-3): J Comilinboeuf (Nauchâtel Xamax) — R Vega (Tottenham Hotspur), M Yakin (Viß Suttigari), S Henchoz (Risckburn Rovers) — J Vögel (Grasshopper Zürich), R Wicky (Werder Bramen), C Storta (Kaiserslautern), P Müller

an upbeat foray towards the game against Switzerland tonight into a bleak assessment of his World Cup prepara-

were occasional glimpses of positive developments for England supporters to cling to. Hoddle suggested, for instance, that he has now made up his mind about 12 or 13 of the final squad of 22 that he will take to the World Cup finals in France this summer, fitness and continued good

form permitting.

Most of the lucky 13 pick themselves and include the "spine" that he talks about so often of David Seaman, Tony Adams, Paul Ince and Alan

smarting from some of the premature criticism aimed at his lack of league goals since his return from serious injury. The race for the other nine places begins tonight in the Wankdorf Stadium, but the England coach was hardly in the mood to fire the starter's

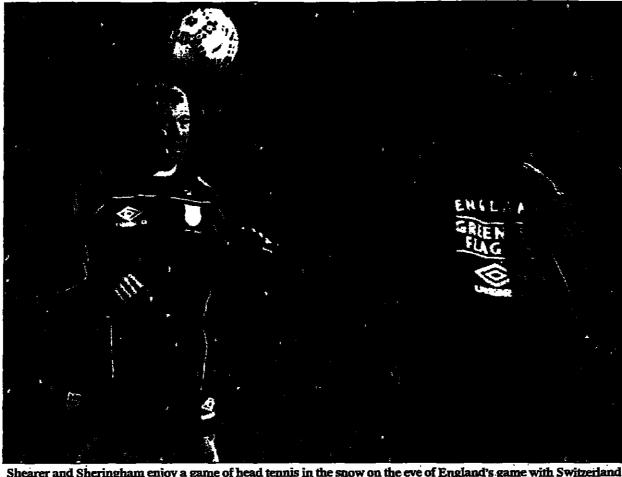
Despite the plague of injuries he has suffered this week and the undoubted havoc it has wrought upon his plans, the level of Hoddle's melancholy took most observers by

Although Brazil have wellpublicised problems of their own, the England coach suggested his side were "motorways behind them" in terms of their preparation. "We are swimming against the tide in that sense," he said. "I would like to play what I consider my starting side before the tournament begins. I might even have done it here tomorrow, but of course that will not now

"I am at the stage where I have not got any more time. I wanted to use the two games we have scheduled for Morocco at the end of May to play the starting line-up and get some structure in, but I am not sure if I am going to get that opportunity. It is getting late in the day. The way we are oing, some of them will need the Morocco tournament to prove their fitness."

Somehow, Hoddle seems to feel almost as if he is being persecuted by the injury situation that has afflicted him. Like others before him, it is the one aspect of the England job that seems to cause him more frustration than any other. It is the recurring problems of Seaman, Adams and Paul Gascoigne that are causing him particular concern and

Worse, though, was to follow. Hoddle has already aimed one burst of clumsy criticism at Michael Owen, the young Liverpool forward, in a well-intentioned but misguided attempt to keep his feet



Shearer and Sheringham enjoy a game of head tennis in the snow on the eve of England's game with Switzerland

on the ground and lift some of the expectation from his shoul-ders. Yesterday, he did it

The last time, he was forced to deny the comments he made about off-the-field problems that he said Owen might be experiencing. This, too, may be another statement that will need qualification. It is unlikely that Hoddle meant criticism of the forward who is likely to partner Shearer to-night, but that is not the way some interpreted his words.

Hoddle, seemingly attemptdragging his morale down. ing some circuitous praise of Owen, who he hinted he will take to France to use as an explosive substitutė, suddenly suggested that the teenager who once scored 92 goals in a single schoolboy season and broke records set by Ian Rush was not a natural goalscorer. "I think when you create as much as Michael does, it is hard to be a born goalscorer,'

Hoddle said. Taken aback, someone suggested that Owen had the potential to become the country's best natural goalscorer

To emphasise just how out of step Hoddle's strictures were with the thinking of the rest of the football world, Gilbert Gress, the Switzerland coach. lavished extravagant

Hoddle said.

since Jimmy Greaves. "Let's

wait and see who's right,"

HODDLE'S SQUAD TAKES

praise on Owen. "He can be the player of the future, not only for England but for the

world," Gress said. His team is likely to include two FA Carling Premiership exiles. Stephane Henchoz, of Blackburn Rovers, and Ra-mon Vega, of Tottenham Hotspur, as well as Ciriaco Sforza, the accomplished Kaiserslautern midfield player, and Stephane Chapuisat, who is leading Borussia Dortmund's attempt to retain the

European Cup. With Teddy Sheringham exhausted from his club commitments, the match is likely to provide Shearer and Owen with their first opportunity to start together. What price the Liverpool forward to score a born goalscorer's goal and cast Hoddle back into the pit?

Brown backing Elliott to make advanced grace

By PHIL GORDON

CRAIG BROWN believes that has been almost as worthy as Matt Ellion is not simply about brawn. The Leicester City defender will truly begin his international education tonight in Glasgow when he faces Brian Laudrup, Denmark's gifted if capricious forward, on the same Ibrox pitch on which Laudrup has made so many other Scomsh

Elliott could not ask for a tougher task for his first Scotland start than to share proximity to not just one Landrup but two Brian, the Rangers icon, will be joined by his elder brother, Michael, now playing for Ajax, and though neither resembles the target-men that Elliott is usually confronted with in the FA Carling Premiership, Brown feels that variety could be the spice of the late developer's football life.

"Matt is huge," the Scot-land coach said yesterday of the towering defender, "but he has far better feet than many imagine. The Danes don't play the ball in the air too much and deliver it into the danger area on the ground, but I have no qualms about Mait. When you have an outstanding player who is doing well every week in the Premiership, you have to utilise him."

Brown described Efficit,

who has only 20 minutes of international experience. against France in November. as "a real find". Elliott, 29, was elevated to top-class football last season when Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, paid Oxford United £1.75 million for him. That value has multiplied. Liverpool are among the clubs said to be monitoring him and Brazil among the opposition awaiting him if he goes to the World Cup finals — not bad for a man who was not considered much of a footballer, never mind much of a Scot.

until relatively recently.

However, Brown's diligence

O'Neill's in discovering that Elliott possesses a Scottish grandmother and was eligible back in or title 5

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to play for them.

I knew my grandmother was Soutish, Elliott, who has never kicked a football on Scottish soil before said. I had heard the rumours earlier in the season that Scotland were interested in me, but I took them with a pinch of sait, But when they asked me, I was honoured.

"John Robertson [the Leicester assistant manager and a former Scotland international told me to go for it and although a high percentage of the squad for France has been decided, a few places are still up for grabs. I can't deny that Brazil and the World Cup finals are starting to creep into my thoughts, but I cannot afford to look any further ahead than this match.

Brown will parmer Elliott with Colin Hendry, whom he named as captain yesterday in succession to Gary McAllister. and the Blackburn Rovers defender needs no convincing of his new team-mate's quality. "Liverpool, Newcastle and Chelsea are all looking for a new one and I have seen Matt's name linked with Liverpool, which gives you an idea of how highly-rated he is," he said.

Brown will alternate his two goalkeepers, Jim Leighton and Andy Goram, giving each 45 minutes. Similarly, Eoin Jess and his former Aberdeen colleague, Scott Booth, may Darren Jackson in attack.

SCOTIAND (probeble; 3-5-2); J Leighto (Aberteen) — C Hendry (Blackburn Ro-ers) M Elliot (Leicester Chy), C Deill (Derby County) — J McNamarz (Califo), I McCali (Rengers), W McNatay (Bectom Rovers), S Generalli (Mollingham Forest), Boyd (Cellic) — D Jackson (Cellic), E Jes (Aberteen).

McMenemy fights enemy within | Brazil take strength from

By DAVID MADDOCK

AS Lawrie McMenemy prepares to send out the first team under his charge as Northern Ireland manager, he knows it will take more than victory over Slovakia at Windsor Park tonight to win over the Ulstermen who reacted with incredulity and vitriol at his appointment six weeks ago.

McMenemy was the surprise choice of the Irish Football Association (IFA) to succeed Bryan Hamilton as international manager. Surprise because he is 61 and has been out of the game for ten months; a bigger surprise is that he is the first non-Ulsterman to be appointed.

Outside Ireland, there is little understanding of the reaction to this move. In England, an analogy has been drawn between "Big Mac" and "Big Jack", an assumption that McMenemy will be greeted with the same sort of affection that canonised Jack Charlton across the

Not a bit of it. Even those sections of the local media that

are blindly loyal to the decisions of the IFA cannot disguise a scepticism bordering on contempt. It is not that he along with his assistants. Joe Jordan and Pat Jennings - is a Catholic, running a team for which the support is 90 per cent Protestant. It is simply that he is English.

team's followers. That means an emphasis on

players are "

Newcastle.

He has had plenty of letters. many, he said. "not so complimentary - they'd had an Englishman thrust upon them and it is easy to understand those kind of feelings". But McMenemy is nothing if not a consummate professional and his response has been to highlight those similarities between himself and his new

his no-nonsense, straight-talking, working class Geordie upbringing. They can think I'm naive coming here, or silly or whatever, it doesn't matter what they think about me." he said. "What matters is what they think about the team. I want them to forget about me because I'm not important, the

though, he threw in an aside about his background. Sitting next to Keith Gillespie, the Newcastle United winger, he said: "We're from similar backgrounds. If you built a bridge from here across the water, you would finish up in

His tough stance is borne of again. He has spent the past ten months, since resigning as director of football at Southampton, enjoying a holiday, and sizing up his options. There have been offers, but



Just for good measure, McMenemy: straight talk

Steve Finney, the Swindon

Town forward, has been

granted a transfer by Steve

McMahon, the manager,

because of the increased com-

petition for places at the

County Ground. Finney, who

is out of contract at the end of the season, has asked for a

move after the recent £120,000

pleasure to be working



I decided to wait until the new year and then this job came along," he said. "It's perfect. They have given me something with this magnificent job and I aim to give something

McMenemy started by attempting to bring in fresh blood - just as Charlton did by scouring the English leagues for tenuous international links. So far, though, David Johnson, the Ipswich Town forward of Jamaican origin, has turned him down and Dele Adebola pulled out of the squad with an apparent back injury. There is talk

though, that the Lagos-born Birmingham City striker has been approached by Nigeria. It leaves McMenemy with a squad shorn of eight players and, given the fact that Slovakia are ranked No 29 in the world and Northern Ireland No 98, a sizeable task.

NORTHERN IRELAND (possible, 4-4-2): A Fettle (Blackburn Provers) — A Hughes (Newcastle Uniced), C Hill (Northempan Town), S Morrow (Duesne Park Ranges), J Whittley (Manchester City) — K Gilbesple (Newcastle Uniced), S Lomas (West Naru-Uniced), N Lamonon (Leicester City), M Hughes (Wimbiedon) — I Dowle (Duesns Park Ranges), J Duinn (Meet Renneich

Zico's arrival for summit complete

GLENN HODDLE said in Switzerland yesterday that Brazil are "motorways ahead" in terms of World Cup preparation, but on the streets of Rio de Janeiro, the England coach would have found himself in a minority of one. All is not as it seems in the world champions' camp.

Poor results in the recent Gold Cup tournament, even though only three first-team players were available, has stirred the pot of unrest in South America. As they prepare for their mouthwatering meeting with Germany to night, the Brazilian federation hopes that the answer has just arrived in the shape of Zico.

The revered former No 10 began work as technical director on Monday, arriving here to bring some vibrancy to the management of Mario Zagal-lo, 69. Imposed on the ageing coach by Ricardo Texeira, the federation president, Zico, 45, will sit on the bench tonight and his influence is already

FROM MATT DICKINSON IN STUTTGART

being felt. Rai, the midfield player, who has not played for the national team since the 1994 semi-final, has been restored to the squad on his

"I think the technical director has to see that there is harmony between players and officials." Zico said, the clear implication being that it has been missing. "It is my role to create that harmony." Under Zagallo, whose age appears to have reduced his

effectiveness on the practice ground, there have been growing fears that a squad of immense talent has lost its edge. It is hard not to feel sympathy, however, given his selection problems.

With the first-choice team spread as far afield as Japan, South America and Europe, it that slumped to the ignominious defeat to the United States

recently, on which Zagallo has been so harshly judged at home. It has been months since he has been able to pick anything resembling his strongest side, but there can be no excuses tonight, when the full might of Brazil -Ronaldo, Romario et al - will take on the champions of

Europe. Berti Vogts, his Germany counterpart, also has as strong a squad as he could hope for. All eyes will be on whether Jürgen Klinsmann or Ulf Kirsten joins Oliver Bierhoff up front, Klinsmann, like Zagailo, is on trial.

GERMANY (probable, 3-5-2): A Köpite (Marselles) — T Heimer (Bayern Munich), M Babbat (Bayern Munich), J Korter (Boussia Dortmund), J Heimfelt (Boussia Dortmund), D Hermern (Bayern Munich), O Thon, (Scristle 04), A Möller (Boussia Dortmund), C Ziege (AC Milen) — J Kirspnann (Otterhern Hotspur), O Blerhoff (Lichnese).

Bohinen to transfer to **Derby**

FROM RICHARD HOBSON

DERBY County expect to complete the signing of Lars Bohinen, the Norway midfield player, this morning. A fee of £1.5 million has been agreed with Blackburn Rovers and Bohinen held talks with Jim Smith, the Derby manager, last night. Bohinen, 28, was granted a

transfer request by Roy Hodg-son, the Blackburn Rovers manager, because he sought regular first-team football in the build-up to the World Cup. Smith has struggled all season to find an ideal foil for Lee Carsley in the centre of midfield and turned to Bohinen after failing to sign Nico van Kerckhoven, the Belgium international, from Lierse. Bohinen, capped 47 times, joined Blackburn from Nottingham Forest for £700,000 212 years ago.

John Gregory, the Aston Villa manager, is prepared to give Sasa Curcic the chance to ressurect his career at Villa Park if a proposed transfer to Crystal Palace does not go through before the deadline tomorrow. Ron Noades, the Palace chairman, said yesterday that a fee has yet to be

The Yugoslavia midfield player is training with Villa again after bringing forward his wedding to an English-woman to last week. While this should ensure he does not lose his work permit, Palace are auxious to seek clarification from the Department for Education and Employment

Gregory said: "If everything goes pear-shaped, at least we have a player again. I am still willing to sell, but I am more than happy to have Sasa

Leyton Orient fined by FA LEYTON Orient, of the Nathat the situation had been second division club have tionwide League third divicaused by administrative eragreed a six-figure sum with the FA Carling Premiership champions, with the potential to rise to more than El million. sion, were fined by the FA rors, but it proved unavailing yesterday for fielding three ineligible players in league matches. Orient also face the and the club was fined £20,000 — £12,500 suspended dependent on appearances.

possibility of having points deducted. Orient fielded Mark Warren. Simon Clark and Stuart Hicks in several mid-season matches, even though they

because of suspension.

should have been unavailable Orient were summoned to an FA disciplinary hearing to face charges of misconduct yesterday. Their defence was

until June 1999 - and the facts of the case reported to the Football League, who could deduct points at a later

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, has bolstered his squad by signing a young forward from York City. Jonathan Greening, 19, impressed Ferguson in a trial at Old Trafford last November

signing of lffy Onuora from Gillingham, since the signing left five players all vying for two positions in the Swindon Finney, who joined Swindon on a free transfer from Manchester City in July 1995,

has suffered two broken legs in the past two seasons. Fraser Digby, the Swindon goalkeeper, has rejected a new threeyear contract offer by the club. while Swindon have decided to release Ian Culverhouse on a free transfer. Bolton Wanderers yester-

day signed Gaetano Giallanza, a 25-year-old Swiss striker, from Nantes until the end of the season. Neil Heaney, Manchester City winger, has

joined Charlton Athletic on loan until the end of

IT WAS no ordinary training session. under the floodlights at Taff Well FC, the

Welsh League village side from near Cardiff. The players chanted, clapped and held hands; the coach, a small, studious man, looked on; and the schoolchildren. excited and noisy, gazed in awe. It was a bizarre scene, stripped of the

rees on the island, added a flavouring of Anglo-Caribbean spice from Eng-

land and generated the romanticism that

no tournament is complete without. A

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

hectic 27-match warm-up programme is underway and the next stop is Ninian Park, where they play Wales this

Credit for the transformation goes to Rene Simoes, the technical director and national coach. The moustachiod, bespectacled Brazilian has produced a team that now dominates Jamaica's sporting con-

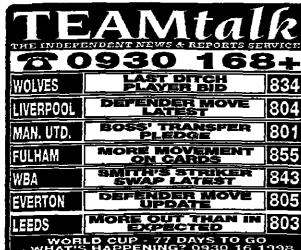
new lads fitted in straight away and there's been no regrets. Jamaicans are loving, caring people. We're not like a club that doesn't welcome foreigners or is suspicious of them. Football has always been popular in Jamaica but not successful. Now it is and it's marvellous, the

The style of football, with its strong South American influence, appeals strongly to Fitzroy Simpson, the Portsmouth midfield player. "It is freedom with discipline," Simpson said. "Every-one can play with the ball but we also have a role within that. It's hard but we work a lot on unity."

"Sometimes beautiful women do not make good wives," Simoes said. "Sometimes good players do not make a good team. It is all about the chemistry, the

teath: It is all about the chemistry, the blending of the parts."

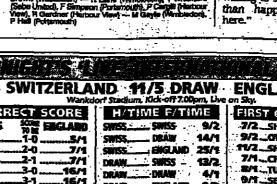
WALES (cossible, 4-4-2: P Jones (Southempton) — 3 Jentices (Hudderstied Town), A Williams (Wohnstrempton Wanderers), C Coloman (Parami), D Benned (Bernsley) — J Oster Eventon), B Savage (Lebester Caly), B Pennincipa (Straffact Wochnesdey), G Speed (Newcaste United) — J Hartson (Wast Ham United), G Taylor (Staffact United), JAMACA (cossible, 2-5-2): W Serrett (Holet Kisters) — D Stovent (unetteched), I Goodban (Chympic Gadere), D Brown (Waddacten) — R Earle (Wintbiedon), T Writmone (Sabe United), F Simpson (Partsmouth), P Cargle (Harbour Yew), B Gardner (Harbour Yew) — M Gayle (Wintbiedon), P Hall (Potpmouth)



Jamaica revel in Brazilian blend

convention usually associated with international squads and especially those engaged in preparations for the World - but then Jamaica are no ordinary qualifiers for the closing stages of a competition that they declined to enter in 1986 because they could not afford the fee. Since those days of penury, Jamaica has tapped into its rich footballing

sciousness. Cricket is passe. Warren Barrett, the captain, said: "The



9/4 SWITZERLAND 11/5 DRAW ENGLAND EVS. FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$25 or more using Switch, Delta or Solo bank or building society debit cards. FIRST GOALSCORER 7/2 ... SHEARER (E) 9/2_OWEN (E) RING TODAY **0800 44 40 40** 11/2 SHERINGHAM (E) 7/1 ...CHAPUISAT (S) 8/1...TURKYILMAZ (S) Free bet is a 510 Correct Score bet on tonight's 33/1. 16/1 Switzerland v England match. (Please place your bet and DRAW ENGLAND 9/2 10/1:_MERSON (E) make your free bet selection within the same call.) : BIGLAND SWESS : 33/1 12/1 __SFORZA (S) 11/2. ...11/2 ENGLAND ... DRAW 14/1 14/1 ...INCE (E) FIGURE FIGURE 11/5 11/2 ... NO GOALSCORER own backing

Bracken and Sella back in business for title showdown

By David Hands, Rugby correspondent

FOLK in Newcastle seldom turn to rugby union for sporting solace, but, given the furore surrounding the foot-ball club, Rob Andrew's team have the opportunity of diverting attention by returning to the top of the Allied Dunbar Premiership tonight. To do so, they must beat Saracens at Kingston Park in the first of the long-awaited meetings of the two clubs that have come to dominate the first division. But, whereas Newcastle

have doubts over at least three of their international players. Saracens are able to throw two back into the fray. Philippe Sella, the France centre, has recovered from concussion and Kyran Bracken, who missed England's victory over Scotland on Sunday through a damaged shoulder, returns after a month away.

Bracken's consistent form at

scrum half has been one of the reasons for Saracens' rise and he was absent when Gloucester brought them to an abrupt halt last week. However, Saracens need all their available resources to sustain their joust with Newcastle in the Premiership and to beat Northampton on Saturday and reach a cup final for the first

Sella's return allows Ryan Constable to revert to the wing at the expense of Richard Wallace, while Ben Sturnham, the promising flanker, must be content with a place among the replacements. Alex Bennett, fit once more after a hamstring injury, joins Tony Diprose and Francois Pienaar in the back row.

Should they win, Saracens will open a four-point gap on Newcastle but will have played, two games more. "It's

Ireland to check safety of Lansdowne Road

THE Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU) has pledged to investigate claims that the safety of supporters was compromised at Lansdowne Road during the Five Nations Championship match with Wales last Saturday (Mark Souster writes).

Philip Browne, the IRFU secretary, said concerns voiced by a Welsh supporter that people were in danger of being crushed during the half-time interval would be addressed. We take all complaints seriously and if, after consultation, we feel we need to review baspects of safety at the ground,

we will," Brown said. Mel Davies, a Gwent businessman, claimed a "tragedy" had only narrowly been averted in an area between the West stand and the North terrace. A temporary metal barrier had and stewards were ignored.

almost given way as supporters en route to the lavatory met others coming in the opposite direction.

About 200 people were involved and the crush was terrible," he said. "We were pinned up against a concrete wall with nowhere to go and with people pushing from behind. Some were trying to climb up over the wall and a lady next to me was scream-

ing in panic.
"I'm a big man — 14st — but was very frightened and felt helpless. My arms were pinned by my side. My ribs and chest still hurt. You can see how Hillsborough happened ... Lansdowne Road is not safe and should not be given a certificate." He contended that complaints at the time to a senior police officer

and T Marloutck (Contemptomy 1 hole; M Hillion and P Lewin (East Stasses National) but J Colemen and D Destmond (St Mellion) 2 and 1; J Lovel (Brokenhast Marror) and G Hughes (Petersfeld) bt G Sheny (Loch Lomond) and D J Russell (Redieston Perk) 2 and 1; Higgins and SheCathly (Poyal North Devon) bt A Collent (European Tour) and S Norman (East Stasses National) 3 and 2; S Barwick and G Woodman (East Stasses) bt Shackarthy (Physial North Devon) bt A Collent (European Tour) and S Norman (East Stasses National) 3 and 2; S Barwick and G Woodman (East Stasses) bt Stasses of Stanses (East Stasses) bt G Evente and R Mancozak (Ealing) 3 and 1; S Barwick and G Evens (N Middlesset) 5 and 4; F Kiddle (Chon Furze) and C Hall (Rushcidtle) bt R Commans and D Alard (Wister) 5 and 3; R Lee (Nassan Inelend) and K (Rushcidtle) bt R Commans and D Alard (Wister) 5 and 3; R Lee (Nassan Inelend) and K Hughesdon and M Challenon (Sunningdote) at 19th; S Gallagher (Trentram Park) and R Fisher (Newcoste Lunder Lyme) bt J L Arginsed and J Langmead (Hele Park) at 19th; M Mackerote (Hellamoton) bt S Moort (unstached) and I Howleson (RAC) 4 and 3, T Rathe and A Morgen (St Georges) 19th) bt J Mits (Cathacte) and S Berniett (Cothesser) 2 and 1; M Meel and D Peel (Stochopm) bt S Whiffin and J Jones (Enfeld) 3 and 2; R Hoddenson (Landon) and Norton) and S Dycon (Sand Moor) 4 and 2; T Wheels (Maylands) and R Dothers (Sunningdote) and C Couper (Each Mickelus GC) I note; G Mellon and Norton) and S Dycon (Sand Moor) 4 and 2; T Wheels (Maylands) and R Joyce (West Essay, bt P Creemer (Criticalingtold) and C Couper (Each Mickelus GC) I note; G Mellon and P Talbot (Royal McG Surrey) 4 and 3 Callenning Health bt M Roberts (Sunningdote) and P Talbot (Royal McG Surrey) 4 and 3 New Course; P Simpson (W Bestetrie) and D Callen (Print and P Callen) feld of P Talbot (Royal McG Surrey) A and B Callenning Each and D Talbot (Royal McG Surrey) A and B Callenning Each And Callenning Eac

New Course, P Simpson (W Besterhire) and D Craik. In (Chipping Norton) br. K. Mecchanist and C Cours (Goodbacod) 1 nois: W Bernett (unstached) and D Rasher (Stoke Poges) br. P Easty and D Monierand (Epongs?) 3 and 2: A George (By Cry) and P Dwiss (Stoke Poges) br. P Easty and D Monierand (Epongs?) 3 and 2: A George (By Cry) and P Dwiss (Strine Wedden) for Rationay (Epongs) 3: A George (By Cry) and P Dwiss (Strine Wedden) for Rationay (Epongs) and S March (Dwiss) and S March (Dwiss) and S March (Dwiss) and S March (Dwiss) and S Keast (South Herte) 6 and 5: P Lane (Stack Hotel) 10: IR Botton and C Donald (Burnham Beaches) 4: and 3: R McFarlans (European Tour) and R Womar (Faminam Park) bt. W Ashbrook and M Booke (Hill Velley) 1 hole; R Fernack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Fernack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Fernack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Fernack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Fernack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Bertack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Bertack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Bertack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Bertack (Bognor Regis) and L Welley 1 hole; R Bertack (Bognor Regis) and R Barta (Barta Hill) and D Bogal (Addington Palace) bt ? Thomas (Date Thomas) and N Scarlon (Narthor C?) 5 and 4: O Linckey (Luftness New) and B Pile (Viobum) bt A Dolg and L Bond (S Pame) S Date Thomas) and N Scarlon (Narthor) 2 and 4: O Linckey (Luftness New) and B Pile (Viobum) bt A Dolg and L Bond (S Pame) 3 and 1: C Herman and 8 Srein (Regis) and A Rogers (Stoke) 2 and 1: O Copsey (Couledon M) and J Edwards (Knowle Park) bt R Regis (Stoke) 2 and 1: O Copsey (Couledon M) and J Edwards (Knowle Park) bt R Rogers (Stokendon Grangs) bt A Participe and N Molington (Molington H) and C Durity (Madachessal bt W Bacton (unstached) 1 and A Nickelman (Potential) and C Durity (Madachessal bt W Bacton (unstached) 1 and A Nickelman (Rogers) and S Molington (Knowler) 2 and 1: J Marriton and M Regis (Monies) and C Rogers) and C Lowers (Knowler) and C Rogers) an



Bracken is expected to return after injury to play scrum half for Saracens tonight

King can revive Wasps

has been turned upside down by injury, may yet have a part to play in reviving the fortunes of Wasps. King, chosen to play fly half for England against Australia last November before a damaged knee forced his withdrawal, is poised to reclaim his club's No 10 shirt for the Tetley's Bitter Cup

semi-final against Sale at Loftus Road on Saturday. He has played twice in recent midweek matches, with no ill effects, and his restoration would bring new life to the 1997 league champions, whose Allied Dunbar Premiership season has gone so badly wrong. A cup final appearance would go a long way towards retrieving the situation for Wasps, who, at present, stand third from the bottom of the first division. Given the ease with which

respected directors of rugby

BY DAVID HANDS

have been shunted to one side in the search for success, Nigel Melville could be forgiven for maintaining a low profile, but the former England scrum half and captain, who now directs affairs at Wasps, remains buoyant.

"The players are aware of the changes made at other clubs and you accept the jokes," Melville said. "There are expectations on you in a professional game and, if the results don't come your way, people tend to want to do something about it. We do the best job we can for as long as we can, but we understand that things go up and down. You work from week to

week to maintain a level of consistency. I see how football works and it's no different for me. We are accountable, we

are a pic, we can't afford to throw money here and there." Injuries have hit Wasps this season in a way they never did

last and it may be no coincidence that both they and Sale, their cup opponents, who have already won once this season at Loftus Road, have comributed significantly to England's cause: John Mitchell, the Sale director of rugby, is assistant coach to the senior side, while Rob Smith, the Wasps coach, together with Pat Fox (conditioning) and Phil Keith-Roach (scrummaging), have all been involved with England and England A.

Sale will be without David Rees, the England wing, whose groin strain will keep him out of England's final Five Nations Championship match, and wait to see if Steve Diamond, their hooker, recovers from an attack of shingles. **GOLF**

Devon pair surprise Coltart and partner

By MEL WEBB

WINNER of the Australasian order of merit and Qatar Masters champion he might be, but things did not go at all to plan for Andrew Coltart yesterday on the opening day of the Sunningdale Foursomes, one of Britain's more endearingly eccentric tour-

With no PGA European Four event until the Cannes Open starts on April 16, Coltart was intent on using the tournament to keep in competitive trim. Instead, he and his parmer, Simon Norman, the Leatherhead professional, fell flat on their faces in the first round, beaten at the 20th by Ian Higgins, the Royal North Devon professional, and Simon McCarthy. his amateur partner.

The Devon pair led only once, when they won the final hole. Coltart blamed himself when perhaps he should not have done, but the young Scot is a compulsively honest indi-vidual who never spares him-self the rod when he thinks he deserves it.

He and Norman won the first two holes and were still two-up with three to play. Their first wobble came at the loth, which they lost to a four after Coltart chipped to eight

feet and Norman missed. The 17th was halved, but the match was taken into extra time when Higgins holed a 15foot putt for a birdie three. Both pairs took five from the back of the green at the 19th, but the end came at the next, where Higgins chipped to 18in and McCarthy made the puti, while Coltart again chipped to eight feet and Norman again missed.

Norman was disconsolate. but Coltart was swift to take the responsibility. "I should have given Simon a better chance on the loth and the 2nd," he said. "It's not the end of the world, but it's still a pity because this is a fun tournament." Not when you've just been knocked into the middle of next week, it isn't.

BOXING

Lewis wins points as Holyfield stalls

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT IN ATLANTIC CITY

LENNOX LEWIS is on the point of being recognised in the United States as a leading force in the world heavyweight division. This is because of American boxing writers dislike of Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield's decision to face Henry Akinwande instead of Lewis, the World Boxing Council champion. Having noted Akinwande's refusal to put up a fight against Lewis last July, Lew-is's critics could soon be turning to him to save the heavyweight division from extinc-

It is imperative, therefore, that Lewis looks impressive here on Saturday, when he defends his title against Shannon Briggs, of New York. If he can dispose of Briggs with the kind of authority that he showed against Andrew Golota, the American public would almost certainly put pressure on Holyfield to live up to his boast of wanting to retire as undisputed champion after beating Lewis, the only man of his era that he has not faced.

Even Americans are saying that Holyfield is running from Lewis and that the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion is putting money before the biggest prize. Lewis said: "American fight fans are asking, 'What's going on?'.
They know Holyfield is ducking me. I see the respect of the American press for me growing in their newspaper articles. It is important for me that the truth is told about me and that they're not just patriotic and biased.

"They don't think too much of British heavyweights, so it is up to me to keep on making a statement and show them I'm for real, I'm the 'Real Deal' now. There are not too many big fights on the horizon at the present moment — the only important fight is the one between me and Briggs."

FOR THE RECORD

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Second Test match

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288
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director of rugby at New-

tain, hurt a shin during the

defeat on Sunday by England

and could miss the chance to

oppose Bracken. These injury problems tend to pull the

squad closer together." Andrew said. "We have had

enough big-march experience this season to cope with the

Be that as it may, Newcastle would doubtless prefer to be at

strength for such an important

game. At least they will have

in their front row Nick

Popplewell, the Ireland loose-

head prop, who has decided to

conclude his international career at the end of this

season. Popplewell, 34 next

month, is in the squad for the

game with England at Twick-

enham on April 4, though

Reggie Corrigan is the sitting

tenant, ireland will be unable

to choose Paul Burke for the A

squad that weekend - the Bristol fly half requires an

operation to his knee and will

While Newcastle defend

their territory, several of their

younger members head south

for the final today of the

British Universities Sports As-.

sociation championship at

Twickenham. Northumbria,

If of whose team are contract-

ed to Newcastle, seek a second

win in the competition, at the

expense of Swansea.

miss the rest of the season.

problems."

rune games to play."

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London Ontary 12 Menchester GS 29: Bristol GS 27: Regate GS 20: Cusen Elizabeth, Barriel 17 Wellington 6; Plymouth GS 5 Gradingt 59: Pool 17 St Geograp 10; Strate 25 Judd 12; Whigh 34 Brodouths 0, Hymers 38 Bishopston 7 Preparatory schools tournament: Group A: Bedford 50 Homelaid 0; Chirdhust 5 Lambrook Haileybury 40; Bed-

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WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE-Such leg: Lated positions set at 1200GMT yeslettay, with miles to Fort Lauderchale) 1. Fr Language (Swe) 1,755 7. 2, 5th Cal (GB) 1,776.8; 3, Innovation: Kwarma (Mor) 1,799 2, 4 Sanotish March (Swe) 1,799 7. 5, Mert. Cup (Morseo) 1,811.8, 6, Creesse Racing (LS) 1,840.2, 7, Tochabo (LS) 1,858 8, BrunsSurangy (Hol) 1,822.8, 9. EF Education (Swe) 1,927.5.

TENNIS

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF ARRANGEMENT OF OLYMPIA & YORK DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED WITH HEAD OFFICE IN THE CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

PURSUANT to the Order of Mr Justice Farley made on March 12, 1998 in the Ontario Court (General Division), any person purporting to be entitled to make a daim of any nature or kind (actual, contingent or otherwise) arising out of any matter or thing whatsoever occurring, or existing after May 2, 1997 up to and including March 12, 1998, against:

(i) Coopers & Lybrand OYDL Inc., (the "Administrator") Administrator of Olympia & York Developments Limited ("OYDL") appointed pursuant to OYDL's Revised Plans of Compromise and Arragement sanctioned by the Court by Order dated February 5, 1993 (the "Plan"), the Administrator's employees, agents, counsel, contractors, directors or officers or persons who provided services to the

me Monitoring Committee, its counsel, the individual members of the Monitoring Committee appointed from time to time or their respective employers, in respect of the actions taken by their employees in their capacity as members of the Monitoring Committee; and/or

iii) the following companies their and actions the committee and/or the following companies during the time they were direct or indirect flaries of OYDL:

The Following companies during the time they were direct or indirect subsidiaries of OYDL:
Bayal Investments Ltd.*, Grenoble Developments Limited, GWU Holdings Limited*, GWU Investments Limited*, GWU Newco Inc., Echo Point Investments Limited*, Kahlamine Holdings Limited*, GWU Newco Inc., Echo Point Investments Limited*, Kahlamine Holdings Limited*, Kahlamine Holdings Limited*, Clympia & York CPI) Credit Corp*, O & Y Enterprises Inc.*, O&Y Enterprises Inc. (amal. co.)*, Olympia & York (5140 Yonge Street) Leasing Limited*, Olympia & York Commercial Paper II Inc*, Olympia & York Commercial Paper Corp.*, Olympia & York Comtractors Limited*, Olympia & York Comtractors Limited*, Olympia & York Creditco Holdings Corporation*, Olympia & York Ell'Inted*, Olympia & York Ell'Inted*, Olympia & York Ell'Inted*, Olympia & York FAP Limited*, Olympia & York (Fifth Avenue Place) Limited*, Olympia & York (Fifth Avenue Place) Limited*, Olympia & York (Gulf Canada Square) Limited*, Olympia & York (Gulf Canada Square) Limited*, Olympia & York (Gulf Canada Square) Limited*, Olympia & York (Shell Centre) Limited*, Olympia & York (240-dth Avenue S.W.) Leasing Limited*, Olympia & York Securities Corp.*, SPE Operations Ltd.*, 5140 Yonge Street Limited*, Olympia & York Securities Corp.*, SPE Operations Ltd.*, 5140 Yonge Street Limited*, Olympia & York Securities Corp.*, SPE Operations Ltd.*, 5140 Yonge Street Limited*, Olympia & York Securities Corp.*, SPE Operations Ltd.*, 5140 Yonge Street Limited*, Olympia & York Securities Corp.*, SPE Operations Ltd.*, 5140 Yonge Street Limited*, Olympia R. York Securities Corp.*, 735735 Ontario Inc.*, 736869 Ontario Inc.*, 750423 Ontario Inc.*, 857640 Ontario Inc.*, 825706 Ontario Inc.*, 818664 Ontario Inc.*, 825706 Ontario Inc.*, 818664 Ontario Inc.*, 818664 Ontario Inc.*, 818664 O

(iv) the representatives of the Administrator or Coopers & Lybrand Limited (the "Trustee") who served as directors and/or officers of OYDL and certain of the es of the Administrator or Coopers & Lybrand Limited (the which representatives of the Admiristrator or the Trustee may have served as directors and officers are identified with an * beside its name; must give notice of such a claim in writing directed to the Administrator at the following address:

Coopers & Lybrand OYDL Inc.

terator of Olympia & York Developments Limited

145 King Street West Toronto, Ontario MSH 1V8

The notice of claim must include a description of the nature of the claim, the facts upon which the daim is based and the estimated value of the claim. No claim may be made unless it is received by the Administrator in writing on or before April 20, 1998. This is not intended to cover daims directly against OYDL, in bankruptcy. Bordet & Eliot

Barristers & Solicitors 40 King Street West Toronto, Ontario

Solicitors for Coopers & Lybrand OYDL Inc.

Receivens any proof which the resident intends to be used on his behalf.

M Cohes, loint Administrative Receiver THE STOR FARK RECEATION CIUB LIMITED (Tomery at An Grove, Hyde Park, Leeds)

Arrangements are being mafe to be a shareholder of the Company to be a shareholder of the Company please contact Phill Lee TCA ISSI of Lee & Company, Crown Bours, Arther Road, Leeds 131.2 281 (tab 0113 247 0047) before 8 April 1998.

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NOTICE SHERMENT GIVEN LEEDS IN THE CLAY COMPANY THE CLAY CANDAL COMPANY THE CLAY CANDAL CAN

proposals under the insolvency Act 1996 and to consider establishing a committee of conditors. A procy form should be completed and returned to see by the date of the meeting if you cannot return the meeting if you cannot return the meeting and wish to be represented. In order to be entitled to vote at the meeting you must give to me, no later than 1200 above to the basiness day percenting the meeting than A topy of the Proposal and may may be obtained than 100 by Heyward CRI, Peter Romes, and CRIST a

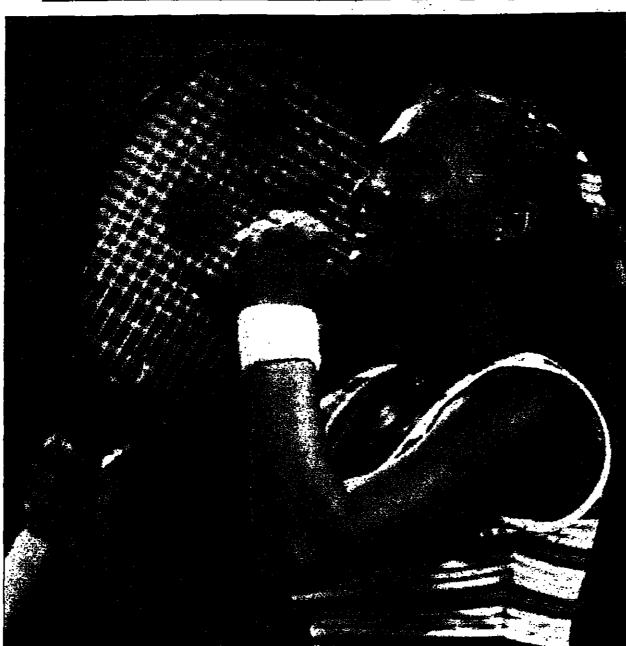
should be sent to me at the abo address.
All creditors who have a already done so are invited prove their chains in witing me. He further pub advertisancer of invitation prove debts will be given. Damed this 20th March 1998 E F BAKEY, FCA, Liquidator Telephone 0161 236 1956. Dated this 20th day of April 1998. D Sweden, PCA, Administrator

7.30%

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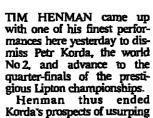
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Straight-sets victory confirms return to form



Kournikova celebrates her impressive victory over Seles, the fifth seed, in Key Biscayne. Photograph: Rhona Wise

Henman brushes Korda aside to reach last eight



Henman thus ended Korda's prospects of usurping Pete Sampras's two-year reign as the world No I. He also eliminated Greg Rusedski's slim chance of doing likewise. Even if he were to win the tournament, Rusedski cannot collect enough bonus points to reach the summit this week. Only Marcelo Rios, who must win the event, can now unseat Sampras.

Henman's display saw him quell Korda's potentially explosive game with another disciplined performance. Korda never recreated the magic of his victory at the Australian Open. He made a string of errors off balls that he would normally send skidding to the corners and looked anything but a potential leader of the game. His negative frame of mind was evidenced by his irritation with the ballboys at the end of the first

Henman deserves much of the credit for Korda's lacklustre showing. He kept his Czech opponent guessing, intermittently raiding the net and preventing Korda from estab-lishing the rhythm with which

87 270

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

he can be so destructive. He even overcame the fact that his first service hardly functioned throughout the match.

Korda entered the contest knowing what was at stake and he started the stronger. breaking the Briton for a 3-1 lead. However, he immediately gifted Henman a break ck with a flurry of missed backhands. Henman pressed ahead, capturing the Korda serve again for the decisive advantage. He saved a break point before closing out the opening set with a pounding first service.

Korda sank to greater depths at the start of set two, but he looked dangerous when breaking the Briton to level at 3-3. To his credit, Henman refused to buckle. He found renewed strength to pressure Korda at 4-4 and it was his opponent who failed the test. Successive double faults at deuce, the second woeful in the extreme, gave Henman the opportunity he craved. There was to be no hesitation as Henman served out, to love,

for a 6-4, 6-4 victory. After completing his victory, the force with which Henman dispatched a ball to the skies told of the significance of the moment. Henman's poor recent form was a thing of the past, he will now play the winner of the match between Gustavo Kuerten and Nicolas

Sampras's vulnerability arises from his uncharacteristically tame defeat by Wayne Ferreira on Monday. In serving a double fault on his second match point, Sampras, a resident of Florida, drew gasps of amazement from a local crowd weaned on his supremacy. It was all the more surprising for Sampras having won the opening set 6-0.

However, Ferreira, world ranked No 36 and a semifinalist in Battersea last month, seized on Sampras's



Sampras hangs his head

lapse to win the second-set tiebreak after another ghastly error from his opponents racket. He grew visibly in stature, breaking Sampras for a 3-1 lead and never relincuishing the advantage to prevail 0-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Sampras's tribulations underline once again how competitive is the contempo rary men's game. Even one of his immense ability cannot afford to drop his guard. His clay-court record suggests he will struggle on the surface in Europe before he defends his Wimbledon title. It is time for him to regroup, and he recognises it.

In the women's event, Anna Kournikova, seeded No 23, continues to impress. The Russian teenager's all-court game gets better and better, as she demonstrated yesterday in breezing past the challenge of Conchita Martinez

A finalist at the Australian Open and seeded No 9, Martinez simply could not compete with Kournikova's high standards. The 6-3, 6-0 verdict accurately reflected the gulf in class. The previous day Kournikova ended the resistance of Monica Seles, who was playing her first competitive tennis in four months. Today she squares up to Lindsay Davenport, seeded No 2 for a place in the semi-finals.

ICE HOCKEY

Basingstoke forced to quit Superleague

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

THE Superleague has suffered a blow with the announcement that Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, owners of the Bison, has withdrawn its financial support and the team has pulled out of the competition. It does not necessarily mean the end of ice hockey in the town, but the council has decided that it causeot meet the cost of running a Superleague team, which is more than £300,000 a

Ian Taylor, the chief executive of the Superleague, said: "We are saddened by the withdrawal of Basingstoke Bison and sorry for all in-volved with the team. Although this is a sethack for the sport, we have substantial interest from operators in franchises across the UK and we anticipate more teams joining in the near future."

Unfortunately, Birmingham will not be among them. Blake Cullen, an American businessman, announced on Monday that he will not pursue plans to install a team at the National Exhibition Centre. Better news is that work is up to schedule at the London Arena, where a team, owned by the Los Angeles

There are problems in Shefappens, it is felt that the

Only one British player is included in the 12-named for the All-Star teams; Tony Hand, of Sheffield, is one of the forwards on the second team. Ayr Scottish Eagles' success is reflected in the choice of Jim Lynch and Rob Dooson as the coach and player of the year respectively. Cooper, Stephen This goes to the best Britishhis exclusion from the Great

Beware the sides of March

TTV, 8.00pm

The windy city is Chicago and Steve March is a former. MIS spy called out of retirement to eliminate an old Russian adversary (David McCallum) from the Cold War days. The man has taken American citizenship and is running for the Senate. March is played by David Jason with a splendid grey beard that makes him look like a pocket version of Orson Welles. Thomas Ellice's screenplay is billed as a comedy thriller. The humour comes from Jason, the joke being that he is smarter than the American cops he is assigned to numour comes from Jason, the joke being that he is smarter than the American cops he is assigned to work with and conquips them at every turn. He also suffers from vertigo, haves green wallpaper and collects mechanical toys. As for thrilling the plot is too slow and serpentine for that and if March is to be promoted from this pilot to a series he will need crisper material.

Modern Times: The Generous Rich BBC2, 9.00pm

Mark Phillips is one of our best documentary makers, witness his film for Modern Times last year which followed the progress of the minage tout from the fields of Africa to a British dinner party. For his latest subject he goes to New York and explores the hectic rounds of charity fundraising in a country where the State mostly does not provide. Essentially the film is about rich people giving their money away, and being seen to do so in the best circles. They include Blaine Trump, sister-in-law of Donald, who throws her social clout behind an Aids charity. By contrast the film calls in at one an Aids charity. By contrast the film calls in at one of the lowlier charities, which has little money and no celebrity support. It works for the homeless and every night draws lots to decide which of 40 or so hopefuls gets one of its 15 beds.

Trouble at the Top BBC2, 9.50pm

It comes to something when, like the supermode lodie Kidd, you are considered old at 23, but ageism is a form of political incorrectness that the agets in it is a norm of point as in a correctness that the model world continues to ignore. This week's alling company is the agency IMG, once a leading stable for young and voguish models but increasingly dependent on the "mummy" market.

Charitable Susie Goodfriend (BBC2, 9pm)

Enter Jonathan Phang. He started his career with IMG as a booker and now returns as managing director, with the hage challenge of trying turn the company round. He brings in Jodie Kidd, not a negligible name, but IMG's survival depends on developing younger talent. Phang himks he has the answer in Charlotte, who at 14 is even further away from her bus pass than Jodie. But while Charlotte is groomed for standom three other girls leave and IMG's future is uncertain.

First on Four Channel 4: 10.00pm

Channel 4: 10.00pm
Did you know that many years ago Ruby Wax acted with the RSC, playing in Measure For Measure with a young Juliet Stevenson? But while Stevenson became one of the glories of the British stage and screen, Wax wisely decided that her brash talents lay elsewhere. Long before Mrs Merton she invented the chat show where the host sets out in insult the guests, and she has been doing it wift variations ever since. Some of the victims, such as Pamela Anderson, were in on the joke. Others, such as Imelda Marcos, were not. Nor was Others, such as Imelda Marcos, were not. Nor was the Duchess of York but whether Wax's interview with her was brilliant relevision, or just embarrassing, is still a matter of debate. According to this profile the key to Wax was a desire to escape her overbearing mother. If so, she has more than

Around Whicker's World Radio 2, 9.30pm

The enormous quantities of material swallowed by radio and television is recycled less than might be imagined from the number of repeats but this new series represents a good use of old material. It will also please those who wonder why it is that Whicker could possibly be one of the biggest draws whicker could possibly be one of the biggest draws in television a few years ago but is not seen at all now. In this series he provides some background detail to the countless interviews he conducted for Whicker's World, their strength as much in the variety of subjects as the individuals themselves. They ranged from the reclusive lean Paul Getty to Butch Cassidy's sister, discovered aged 94 in a small town called Centreville: "It was like running into Robin Hood's aunt," Whicker says.

6.30am Kavin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 do Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Chris Moyles 4,00 Dave Pagres. Includes 5.45 Newsbeat 6.30 The Evening Session on Tour: Birmingham. With music by Trads. Catalonia and Idlawild 8.30 Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Arme Hobbs 1,00am Charlie Jorden 4.00 Clive Warren.

6,00am Alex Lester 7.30 Sersh Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1,30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Nick Berraclough 8.00 Raiph McTell 9.00 Roots Radio 9.30 Around Whister's World See Choice 10.00

RADIO 5 LIVE

on The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 6,00mm The Sreadest Frogramme surul vicey Campoet 12,000 Midday with Med 2,000 pm Ruscoe on Five 4,00 Nationwide with Julian Wortclear 6,55 Footbell Night. Live coverage of the International match between Switzerland and England. Plus reports on Scotland v Denmark and Weles v Jamaica. 10,00 Late Night Live 1,00am Up All Night 5,00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00mm Calmin Jones 7.00 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00mm Nick Abbot 4.00 Robin Banks 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Ray Cokes 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Janey Lee Grace / Howard Pearce

TALK RADIO

6.30em Kirsty Young with Sill Overton 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Loreine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 6.00 Live Footbalt: Setzerland v England 9.00 James Whale 1.00em Isn Collins 5.00 The Eady Show

son (Overture Die Piedermaus)

9.00 Masterworks, with Peter Hobdey. Vaughan
Williams (Overture: The Wasps); Rachmaninov
(Variations on a Theme of Choph); Gabrieli
(Surrext Christus); Strauss (Horn Concerto No 1);
Mozart (D'Eliso in Sen M'attendi, Lucio Sille);
Boccherini (Symphony in D minor)

10.30 Artist of the Week: Roger Norrington. The
conductor talks to Joen Belewell about his
Wiselesse Symphony (25)

Weekend Experiences (3/5)

Sound Stories: The Cult of the Personalities.

Donald Mediand profiles Maria Calles possessed one of the freest singing voices the world has ever the personal (3/5 table).

one of the finest singing voices the world has ever know (3/5) who

12,00 Composer of the Weelc Louis and François Couperin, with Paul Guinery (3/5)

1.00pm The Redio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Paul Waltins, callo, lan Brown, piano, Janáček (Pohadia;) Poulent (Cello Soneta); Martinu (Variations on a Slovak Theme)

2.00 Midweek Cholosc 0171 785 4308, Susan Sherpa indice listeners' suggestions for the grand finale of the programme

195 SCHOOL BADOOK (f)
10.00 (LW) News, Delty Service
10.15 (LW) On These Days, with Liz Lockhead
10.30 Woman's Hour. Jenni Murray talks to the
Postuguese pianist Maria-João Pires
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time (f)
12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm How Pleasant to Know Mr Lear. Nicholas
Parsons calebrales the life of Edward Lear, With
Colls. Sall at the prices of EE Ward Lear. With

Coin: Sell at the pierro 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarks
1.40 The Archers (f) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Medical Detectives: The Last infirmity.
Carroll and Lezzar's research into yellow fever.

Carroll and Lezser's research into yellow fever, charactered by Michael Butt (3/3) (f)

2.46 Steges of Redemption: Robert McCrum. Writers reflect on enduring themes drawn from the story of Civist's Passion (5/7)

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 Kaledoscope. Paul Gambacchi reviews selects the best of this week's chema releases, including Bob Hosfors in Twenty Four Seven and Dustin Hoffman and Sharon Stone in a sci-fi movie set on the ocean floor called Sphere

4.45 Short Story: Food for Thought, by Vincent, McInemey, read by Gerard McDermott.

McInemey, read by Gerard McDenmott
5.00 PM, with Charlie Lae-Potter and Chris Lows 5.50
Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Counterpoint (r)

Enoch Powell — A Career Considered Radio 4, 720pm

Radio 4,720pm.

Enoch Powell's last journey in the corridors of power ended some 35 years ago when he resigned as Minister of Health over the appointment of Sir Alec Douglas' Home as Prime Minister. It was the second time in five years that Powell had resigned from a Tory-Government and his final eathe front all hope of advancement was to come with his notorious, speech on immigration in 1968. Given the large gap between his occupation of high office and his recent death. Powell's statute on the political sceine may be thought overblown by the younger generation. But, as this profile by Michael White shows, Powell had a statute as a bearer of the Conservative flag that meant far more than any the Conservative flag that meant far more than any nominal position he held. Peter Barnard

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POECH.

No.

6.80am Neverlay 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: Shedow Baby 7.30 Meridian Live 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 6.15 Westwey 8.30 Everywoman 8.00 News News In German (6.46 orly) 8.05 World Business Report 9.15 The Ferming World 9.30 Bitain Now 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Onle Plenet 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Sports International 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Bitain Today 12.30 Wildrack 12.45 Sports Floundup 10.00 News 10.00 News 10.00 News 3.00 News 3 12.15 (2020) 12.30 Neoresch 12.46 Sports Houndup 1,00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Cullicok 2.30 Megamith 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Performence 3.39 Everywomen 4.00 News 4.15 From Our Own Correspondent 4.30 Insight; News in German (648 only) 4.45 Billiah Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 The Works; News in German 6.48 and 7.00 Newsdesk 6.30 The Works; nan (648 only) 7.00 No 9.00. News 9.05 World Business, Report 9.15 British Today 9.30 On Screich 10.00 Newsday, 70.30 East of 10.45 Spiris Robridge 11.00 News 41.05 Oxidook 11.38 Mulikark X-Press 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30mm From Our Own Correspondent 12.45 Erikeln Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Your Land is My Land 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Merkdien Books 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Life on the Road 3.45 The Learning World 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

prepares haddock mouses with tomato sauce. Plus, Recommon the beautiful the Week features the best of the Week features the best of the new releases 12.00 Lunchtime Requests 2.00 pin Concerto. Bruch (Concerto Concerto) 6.00mm Breakinst with Belley 8.00 Henry Kelly. Michael Barry of the Week features the best of the new releases 12.00 Lunchtime Requests 2.00 per Concerto. Bruch (Concerto for Carinet and Viola) 3.00 Jamie Crick, including Atternoon-Romence and Continuous Classics 6.30 Newsright. Head-lines, arts news and guests, presented by John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Brunning 9.00 Evening Concert: Bach (Brandenburg Concert No 6 in B flat, Cello 9.05 No 3 in C. Devises Undertweeth State. Ceater and Politics. No 3 in C); Remeau (Instrumental Suite, Castor and Pollus); (4)) Vivaldi (Stabilit Mater) 11.60 Menn at Night 2.00am Concerto

young love, the passage of time and social jostling in 18th-century Vienna. This performance was given lest yeer at the Paris Opera Bestilla. Sung in German. Berbara Bonney, soprano, Renee Fleming, soprano, Franz Hawleta, bass, Susen Graham, mazzo, Paris National Opera Chorus, Children's Chorus and Orchestra under Edo de 6.00am On Air, with Petroc Traiswny, includes Handel (Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, Solomon); Brehms (How Lovely Are Thy Dwelling Places); Rossini (Non Piu Mesta, La Cencenticia); Johann Strauss, son (Overture Die Piedermaus)

Viser:
10.30 Pieces de Clavecin. Christophe Rousset plays a selection of harpsichord pieces from Book 4 of Couperin's Pieces de Clavecin
10.45 Mg/th Waves. Michel Roberts discusses the life the American poet Marianne Moore

10.45 Nagmt waves. Machael Alcodra discusses the life the American poet Marianne Moore

11.30 Composer of the Weelc Liext (r)

12.30 am Jazz Notes. Presented by Digby Fairweather

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macland 1.00

Danish State RSO under Erik Turen, with Victor Schloter, plano. Tohelicovsky (Piano Concerto No 1); Brahms (Symphony No 1) 2.30 Handel (Agrippina Condotta a Morire) performed by Johanna Kostowsky, soprano, Musica Alta Ripa. 3.00 Schools: Time and Tune 3.20 Together 3.40 Dance Workshop 4.00 Let's Make a Story Special EAL Edition 4.15 Ractio Showcase 4.20 Scottish Resources 10-12 4.40 Talking Points (Scottish Resources for RE) 5.00 Tchelkovsky (Wattz of the Flowers) performed by HTV Sloveria Symptomy Orchestra 5.05 Amold (Prelude, Stelliano and Rondo) 5.15 Kabalevsky (The Cornactane) performed by the BBC Concert Orchestra 5.30 Chopin (Schezzo No 4) performed by Valerie Tryon, piano

RADIO 4

7.20 Enoch Powell: A Career Considered, See Choice 8.05 The Wrecking of Peradise. Den Piricett

Choice
a.05 The Wrecking of Paradise. Dee Birledt
investigates the Image of the Infamous Wildern
Bligh, captain of the Bounty
a.35 The Front. Sare Perker presents three
programmes about pretence (2/3) (r)
a.00 On Garpts' Shoulders: Crick and Walson. The
Times columnist Melvyn Bregg talks to James
Watson, from the team who uncovered the
structure of DNA. He recalls the heady days of the
1950s and talks about the issues reised in
molecular biology today, in particular the question
of human cloning (5/6)

motecular biology inclay. In particular the question flumen cloning (5/6).

9.50 Kaleidoscope (f) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonightl, with Robin Lusting

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Gataby. F. Scott

Fitzgerald's classic novel, abridged by Neville

[6/6] Read by Sam Robards (3/10) (f)

10/11/10 Amistroning and Miller. More bizarre comedy from 8en Miller and Alexander Amistrony, with contributions from Samuel West and Tony Gardner Including the list ever episode of the tough-guy cop saga-Parsons and Lamplica and

tough-guy cop saga Parsons and Lampkin and Lampkin and 11.15 World of Pub. The radio cartoon show it is the 500th anniversary of the East End and the Queen is visiting Beny and Garry's pub

1930 (LW) Today in Performent 1130 (FM) Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Sue, with Robert Duncan and Jan Revens as Radio 4's audioce to Anne and Nick Writer by Bill Dare

(Application of the second of

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.8-89.8, RADIO 2. FM 90.2-82.4, RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 893, 909 MORID SERVICE. MW 848; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 993, 276. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughest Rossman; Smith, Susan Thomas.

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Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower stopes; U - upper.

SNOW REPORTS

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Conditions Huns to the Off/p resort

tall overnight/morning has improved pist 55 good powder good to at skiing returns after iresh snowlails)

220 good powder fair fai cellent skiling conditions; 20cm fresh snow) 205 good powder icy su (Very good skiling in some fresh snow)

Answers from page 38

Obergurgi

Alpe d'Huez

Avonaz

Val d'Isère

SWITZERLAND

Paine

FILICIDE (c) The action of killing a son or danghter. In Latin, filius means a son and filid a danghter. The suffix-cide comes from caedere to kill. 'Let not the race of mortal men utterly perish thro' our filicide."

GALLOON (c) A kind of narrow, close-woven ribbon or braid, of gold, silver, or silk thread, used for trimming articles of apparel. A trimming of this material. In Old French galonner means to dress the bair with gold bands or other ribbons. A connection with the root of gallant seems possible. Carlyle, Frederick the Great, 1864: "Footmen, grand as galloon and silver fringe could make them."

(c) A stomacher or neckerchief of a nun. A stomacher was a decorative V-shaped panel of stiff material worn over the chest and stomach by men and women in the 16th century, later only by women. From the Old French guimple, cf. wimple, "Sisters in grey, with swarms of idle drabs and wenches in gimps (Guimps, a mun's contraction). neckerchief) dispersed all over the kingdom.

FACIA (e) The tablet or plate over a shop front on which is written the name and often also the trade of the occupier. A variant or mistake for fuscia. Also attributively, in facia writer and facia sign.

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SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Nfl+; 2, Khl Qh2+!; 3, Nxh2 Ng3 checkmate.

15 163 good powder some sun (Great skiling conditions; snow plentiful and sun out) 80 190 good varied good sun (Excellent skiling on all pistes in beautiful sunshine) -3 23/3

0 50 good powder closed snow -2 24/3. (Great skiing in fresh powder conditions an/all piste)

Kings, of the National Hock-

ey League, is due to join the Superleague next season. field, where consideration is being given to a flotation of the company that owns the Steelers. A statement is expected soon, but, whatever Steelers will continue in the

all the teams are overspendplayers is being mooted.

of the programme
4,00 Choral Evensong, Live from the Collegiste
Crunch of St Mary, Warwick
5.00 in Tune, with Sean Rafferty
7,00 Performence on 3; Der Rosenkarvaller. A
performence of Strause's bittersweet opera about 5.53am (I.W) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Faming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with the Times columnist 2.00 News 9.05 Management, with the (lines could Libby Purves and guests 10.00 (PM) News; Take Out Your Bagneti and Swithers. Ian McMillian investigates the work the school landbook (r)

Superleague next season. The emphasis on imported players has made the Superleague an expensive venture and it is thought that ing. A move towards fewer Canadians and more British

Manchester Storm, has won the Alan Weeks Trophy for the seventh time in nine years. born defenceman and makes Britain team for the world championships next month all the more mystifying.

Desperately seeking a new idea for a series

spent years trying to unravel the mystery of why so many of the women in your office tend to ovulate at the same time. So you, too, will be glad that a couple of American psychologists at the University of Chicago have found an answer. They demonstrated, according to the latest British Medical Journal, that collecting an apparently odourless compound from the armpits of women, and then persuading their colleagues to smell it, affects their time of ovulation and their next period. Something similar hap-pens in the world of television: bouts of mutual armpit-sniffing by Alan Yentob, Michael Jackson. David Elstein and other TV bosses results in rival channels all producing costume dramas or docusoaps at exactly the same time in the scheduling cycle. It is

ike most men with demand-ing jobs, you've probably of how women in their thirties cope Risk, a 38-year-old Scot living in with juggling jobs, men, and a London, throws in her lot with a Hot on the skirts of BBC's

> Cutting Edge last night brought us Thirtysomething, a glance at three single women in their thirties, all searching for the happiness that a partner and/or a baby might bring. At least one of them Sarah Bradford, a 36-year-old, cello-playing, electronic engineer from Liverpool who runs her own business in London — feels trapped in a vicious circle her longing for a man might be the very thing reducing her chances of finding one: "I get the feeling that I've got a big label on my head saying, 'I want a baby. Quick!'. There is that feeling that the men that you meet would automatically assume that's all you're after. And the trouble is, they're right!" Sarah eventually tries her luck

with a lonely hearts column. Babs

dating agency, Jan. a 33-year-old Liverpudlian nanny who lives with Having It All series, Channel 4's her sister, has decided that men are just too much bother for the brief ripple of pleasure they provide and opts for donor

> arah and Babs both tingle when they see how many blind dates they have lined up, but it turns out to be a bit like house-hunting: the estate agent's particulars convince you that you've found your ideal home, but your heart sinks the minute you walk through the front door and see the brown crushed velvet glued to the dining room walls by some Child of the Sixties who has turned the house into a Biba shrine. Sarah and Babs are still looking for Mr Perfect. Jan's insemination programme has yet to bear fruit. By locating three intelligent and

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

articulate thirtysomethings willing to tell their story. Lucy Sandys-Winsch's film left you feeling that maybe the probem lies less with the women than with the quality of the men available on the market. In their defence, men might argue back that they don't all behave as moronically as Gazza or Liam Gallagher, which is true. But let's face it, almost no women do. Perhaps it's the commitment men

thirtysomething documentary will focus on the problems that attractive young PR woman Sarah Macauley is having in getting her dour Scottish boyfriend Gordon to stop thinking of her as a photoopportunity and to consider her more as a mother of children they could have together - though, obviously, only when it is prudent to do so, and there is no inflation-

Annie Lindsell, who was clearly cut from very different cloth from many unmarried women, liked to joke that she wanted her grave-stone to read: Died a Miss, but didn't miss much." And she didn't, even though she died far too young from motor neurone disease, and had devoted her final years not to world cruises and lotus-eating but to waging a much-publicised courtroom battle for voluntary euthanasia

Even when half in death's maw,

find tricky. Maybe the next Lindsell fizzed with more life than tall buildings if they want to spare most people manage who have several healthy decades ahead of them. Desmond Wilcox's film last night, Fighting For Dignity (ITV), was assembling the troops for the next stage in the campaign for people's right to die with dignity. But it drew most of its emotional punch from the vibrant personality of Lindsell, a woman who either never felt self-pity, or else never wallowed in it. T've never thought of looking at things on the

> nd once she realised she was going to die, she decided she'd make the best of that, too: "I would still love to live. But I don't want to die badly, either ... I don't want to die in the way that I have seen other people die." She didn't, but the High Court last year made her case an exception rather than the rule. Others in similar straits still have to jump off

their doctors or relatives a possible murder charge. Also still fizzing with more life

than most other sitcoms ever manage is The Larry Sanders Show (BBC2), which last night did its bit to explore the dilemmas facing single. female thirtysomethings by inviting Ellen Degeneres on to the show. It was Artie's idea. He told Larry that Ellen was "a lightning rod of sexual controversy" and it would boost Larry's limp ratings if he could get her to admit, live on TV, if she or her TV sitcom character "Ellen" was a lesbian. But the night before her guest spot, Ellen ends up in bed with Larry. Not only do these thirtysomething women not know how to make life easier on themselves, there is clearly so much international armpit-sniffing going on that they're all in a worldwide tizz at the same

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (33632) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (46336)

happening again with the subject

9.00 Good Living Presented by Jane Asher (T) (8195813) 9.25 Kilroy (T) (2705800) 10.05 Style Challenge (5690583)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (7827859) 10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (1424941) 1.35 Real Rooms A kitchen-diner (1825361). 12.00 News (T) regional news and weather (8258361)

12.05pm Call My Bluff (5816816) 12.35 Wipeout (2678800) 1.00 News (T) and weather (96813) 1.30 Regional News (T) (54358800) 1.40 The Weather Show (66726899)

1.45 Neighbours (T) (72681670) 2.10 Ironside (T) (4690629) 3.00 Lion Country Lynette the prized cow is entered for the South West Dairy Show (4212)

3.30 Playdays (7745632) 3.50 ChuckleVision (7765496) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (1620038) 4.35 The Wild House, Last in

series (5587019) 5.00 Newsround (T) (9805458) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (8461629) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (200093) 6.00 Six O'Clock News (1) and weather (835)

6.30 Regional News (T) (187) 7.00 Junior Masterchef Young contestants from London and a recent emigrant to

Australia cook, Graeme Allen and Magenta De Vine judge (T) (6293) 7.30 Tomorrow's World Jez Nelson reporting on the live Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii. Last in series (T) (699)

8.00 Doctors' Orders An elderly patient undergoes a mental assessmen pioneered by Paul Stade's mother-in-law, Dr Evelyn Golding (T) (5941) 8,30 Points of View (I) (221011)

8.45 The National Lottery Draw Hosted by Carol Smille, with music from Louise (1)

9.30 The Thin Blue Line The officers look forward to policing Gastorth: FC's second-round match in the FA Cup (r) (T) 9.59 National Lottery Update (1) (178106)

10.00 Rough Justice Kirsty Walk presents new series on possible miscantages of justice, beginning with the re-evaluation evidence which led to the life imprisonment of three black men for the murderous M25 Gang assaults in 1988 (T) (791922) WALES: 10.00 The State. Profile of former Velvet Underground member John Cale (7632) 11.00 Rough Justice (731835) 11.55 FiLM: An Office and a Gentleman (229651) 1.50am News (2392355) 1.55 BBC News 24

10.55 An Officer and a Gentleman (1982) Romantic drama, with Richard Gere as a Navy recruit whose relationship with millworker Debra Winger is forced onto the

12.55am Weather (6057862) 1.00 BBC News 24

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BBC2 6.10am The Palazzo Publico, Siena (3378274) 6.35 Made without Flaw? (1366477) 7.00 See Hear News (T) (7794038) 7.15 Telefubbles (r) (5704729) 7.40 Captain Caveman (r) (6392903) 8.00 Record Breakers Gold (r) (1) (34125) 8.30 Postman Pat (6161309) 8.45 The Record (3730309) 9.10 Short Circuit

(7996106) 9.30 Job Bank (9519106) 9.45 Words and Pictures (9507361) 10.00 Teletulobies (99125) 10.30 Numbertime (7543403) 10.45 Watch (2593908) 11.00 Around Scotland (7923458) 11.20 Job Bank (8640729) 11.40 Working it Out: Sorteoli (4512699) 11.55 Hands Upl (9962598) 12.10pm Science in Action (2832545)

12.30 Working Lunch (47187) 1.00 Dilly the Dinosaur (r) (24318699) 1.05 Bananaman (r) (24300670) 1.10 The Leisure Hour (7212187) 2.10 Maile or Break (22658212) 2.40 News (T) (9826748) 2.45 Westminster (T) (2862106) 3.55 News (T) (4597922)

4.90 Change That (r) (451459) 4.25 Ready, Steady; Cook (4584458) 4.25 Esther. Single Fathers (9493309) WALES: 4.55pm Lifeline 5.05 Wildlife on Two 5.30-6.00 Home Front in the Garden 5.25 Today's the Day (9716516)

5.50 Lifeline (r) (922598) 6.00 Star Treic The Next Generation (r) (1) (387380) WALES: 6.00 Young Music 6.50 Footbell: Wales v Jamaica 9.00 University Challenge 9.30 Modern Times 10.20 Dance for the Camera 6.45 The O Zone Roni Size (840903) 7.05 Water Works (997545)

7.10 BBC Young Musician '98: String players (118632) 8.00 University Challenge Magdalen College, Oxford, v the University of Wales (1) (3583)

8.30 Home Front in the Garden Trans forming a narrow overgrown plot into a dining terrace. Last in series (1) (2090) Modern Times: The Generous Rich Insight into 9.00] millionaires (1) (288146)



Phang and Jodi Kidd (9.50pm)

Trouble at the Top: A Model MD Carneras follow Jonathan Phang, the newly appointed managing director of model agency IMG (1) (524187)

10,30 Newsnight (T) (584854) 11.15 Jazz 606 (261651) 11.55 Weather (895477) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (57423)

12,30am Learning Zone: A Tale of Four Cities (35713) 1.00 Bloodlines (4836) 1.30 Babies: First Steps to Autonomy (86024) 2.00 The Science Collection (98065) 4.00 Cine Cinephiles (85959) 5.00 Business and Training (9468404) 5.45 Biological Barriers (11713)

HTA6.00am GMTV (4440106) 9.25 This Morning (T) (8620038) 9.30 Vanessa (1) (3397670) 10,10 This Morning (I) (98700187) 12.20pm Regional News (8262564)

12.30 News (T) and weather (67941) 1.00 Shortland Street (31699) 1.30 Home and Away (1) (66212)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show: Abandoned at the Altar (T) (5010106) 2.45 Waffle Nick Wery is joined by Gaynor Gaye from Coronation Street and Lee Murray from the band Let Loose (T)

3.15 News (T) (1386293) 3.20 Regional News and weather (1383106)

3.25 Tots TV (1373729) 3.35 The Blobs (7036926) 3.45 Paddington Bear (1074962) 3.50 Kipper (f) (2829667) 4.00 Oscar and Friends (8100011) 4.05 The Wombles (1953019) 4.20 Woof (f) (T) (1604090) 4.45 How Goes 2 (T)

5.10 WALES: Primetime Diary (1) (2543038) 5.10 Yan Can Cook - The Best of China 5.40 News (T) and weather (920187) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (356854) 6.25 Regional weather (964922) 6.30 Regional News (583) 7.00 Emmerdale Will discovers a shocking

and disturbing secret about his mother (1) (1361) 7.30 Coronation Street Jon excels himself in court (T) (767)



March in Windy City Tense espionage drama in which a former British secret agent is brought out of retirement to carry out one last assessination. With David Jason, David (1) (3293)

10.00 News (T) and weather; Lottery result (32767)10 30 Regional News and weather (607854) 10.40 The Big Match Highlights of tonight's

triendly game between Switzerland and 11.40 Tropical Heat (r) (374699)

12.40am in Country (1989) Bruce Willis and Emily Lloyd star in this drama about a teenager and her traumatised veteran uncle trying to come to terms with the legacy of Vietnam in a small Kentucky town. Based on the novel by Bobbie Ann (57834794) 2.45 If I Were You with Paul Ross (r) (24775)

3.15 Vanessa (r) (T) (2378268) 3.50 Cybernet (90783607) 4.15 ITV Nightscreen (8318171)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (22268)

5.30 News (52978)

CENTRAL As HTV West except: 1.00pm A Country Practice (31699) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1567496) 3.40-3.45 The Blobs (4807191) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2543039)

6.25-7.00 Central News (535090) 11.40 Crime Stalker (374699) 2.45am If I Were You (24775) 4.15 Central Jobfinder '98 (3638171) 5.20 Asian Eye (1407084)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except:

12.20pm-12.30 lituminations (8254545) 1.00-1.30 Emmerdale (31699) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2543038) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (42632) 11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (374699)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except:

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2543038) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (903) 6.30-7.00 Streetwise (583) 11.40 Highlander (374699) 5.00em Freescreen (22268)

ANGLIA As HTV West excent: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8266380)

1.00-1.30 Surprise Chefs (31699) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2543038) 6.23 Anglia Weather (965651) 6.25-7.00 Angila News (535090) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (867106) 11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (374699)

SIC Starts:

6,00 Sesame Street (59670) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (29854) 9.00 Yagolion (121941) 11.30 Powerhouse (2835) 12.00pm Ricki Lake (22380) 12.30 Sesame Street (65583) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (47638019) 1.15 Sgerbyde (47626274)

1.30 FILM: The Master of Bankdam (56632) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (361) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (496) 4.30 Countdown (380)

5.00 5 Pump (9560922) 5,15 Ptell (9800903) 5.30 Classic Trains (632) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (794090)

6.10 Heno (392212) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (274106) 7.25 Ptermio (479380) 8.00 Hawlio (8651)

8.30 Newyddion (4458) 9.00 Cutting Edge (6093) 10.00 Brookside (433496) 10.35 ER (303816)

5.30 Diwedd (7095152)

11.30 Frasier (80477) 12.00am Under the Moon (714751) 2.30 NBA XXL (63249) 4.30 British Athletics (54997) 5.00 Board Stupid (91930)

5.55 Sesame Street (7005539)

CHAMNEL 4 6.00am Sesame Street (59670)

black side," she said.

7,00 The Big Breakfast (29854) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (29854)
9.00 Schoots: Using Museums (19815) 9.30
Good Health Guide to Eating, Drinking,
Resting and Playing (T) (9504274) 9.45
Book Box (T) (9509729) 10.00 Stage Two
Science (T) (8211361) 10.15 Rat-a-TatTat (8234212) 10.30 The French
Programme (T) (6895729) 10.50 Stop,
Look, Listen (2683361) 11.00 First Edition (9386854) 11.15 The Mix (T) (9376477)

11.30 Powerhouse (2835) 12.00 Sesame Street (22380) 12.30pm Light Lunch. Today's guest is the actress Kathy Burke (66477) 1.30 North to Wales (28237816) 1.50 The Browning Version (1952, b/w) Film play. With Michael Redgrave and Jean

Kent. Directed by Anthony Asquith 3.30 Collectors' Lot Trench warfare periscopes, and memorabilia of the Kennedy's (T) (361) 4.00 Filteen-to-One (T) (496) 4.30 Countdown (T) (5571458) 4.55 Ricki Lake: Stop Smoking Pot Around Our Mods (T) (6679748) 5.30 Pet

Rescue. An overweight labrador embarks on a fitness regime (1) (632) 6.00 Party of Five (T) (290800) 6.50 Fresh Pop (167089)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (861212) 7.55 Remember When? Joyce Ripely addresses her son, who went missing in 1986 (315187)

8.00 Brookside Max tries to persuade Susannah to move. Is Ron on the threshold of a new career? (T) (8651) 8.30 TV Dinners A healthy housewarming with sprouted beans, goat's cheese and mango slices; callaloo, a West Indian

Hampsteed, north London (1) (4458) 9.00 ER: Sharp Relief Weaver questions Synergix's management practices. Ross plans a secret wedding; and the serial rapist strikes again (1) (6093)

curry with spices from Trinidad on the

menur and a Caribbean inspired dinner in



The outrageous Ruby Wax (10pm)

10.00 First on Four: Ruby Wax The career of the former actress turned histrionic chat show host (T) 10.30 Friends Ross over reacts when Rachel

starts a new job with a handsome boss (r) (1) (16729)11.00 Fortean TV Uncut (T) (3187)

11.30 Gas Joining Lee Mack are Jason Byrne and Fiona Allen (T) (80477) 12.00 Under the Moon Interactive sports show with Danny Kelly and Tom Blnns (714751)

2.30am NBA XXL (63249) 4.30 British Athletics (54997) 5.00 Board Stupid The surf and skateboard scene in the UK (3228404) 5.25 Gamesmaster (r) (3236423)

ZEA CHANNELS

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel tree of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (8927212)

7.00 WideWorld (1) (r) (5100496) 7.30 Milkshake! (6961293) 7.35 Wimcie's House (r) (4448496) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1000800) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (1112699)

9.00 Espresso (5503835) 10.00 Woodland Tales (r) (T) (3126354) 10.30 Sunset Beach (T) (5294748) 11.10 Leeza (2080019) 12.00 5 News (T) (1183187) 12.30pm Family Atlairs (r) (T) (6044835) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (5109767) 1.30 Sons

and Daughters (6043106) 2.00 Beauty and the Beast (2776813) 3.00 100 Per Cent Gold (8241570) 3.30 The War Between Us (1995) with Shannon Lawson, Mieko Ouchi, lan Shannon Lawson, Invento Communication Shannon Lawson, Inventor Shannon Lawson, Inventor Shannon Inventor Shannon Inventor Shannon Inventor Shannon Lawson, Inventor Shannon

woman and an American become friends during the Second World War, despite the prejudices of others. Directed by Robert Lewis (2971477) 5.20 Russell Grant's Postcards The

astrologer marvels at the historic manor at Ashford (37169293) 5.30 The Great Garden Game (f) (1)

6.00 100 Per Cent (7026212) 6.30 Family Affairs A chilling coincidence has

Angus in a state of confusion; Duncan shows signs of settling down (T) (7017564) 7.00 5 News (T) (3196421) 7.30 Woodland Tales The ancient species of

the woods of mid and southern England (T) (7013748) 8,00 The Pepsi Chart With music from

ns and M Peoole (3) 8.30 Food Fight Cornedy quiz with Andy Parsons, Henry Naylor and Sara Cox



Tortured Tori Spelling (9.00pm)

9.00 Awake to Danger (1996) with Tori Spetting, Michael Gross and John Getz Thriller about a teenage girl who wakes Thriller about a teenage girl who wakes after 18 months in a coma with the murder of her mother as her only memory. Directed by Michael Tuchner 10.50 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and

comedy (5080090) 11.30 Live and Dangerous Sports magazine American sport, including basketball and at 2.00am baseball (2380361)

5.30am 100 Per Cent (r) (5488572)

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

7.00em Street Sharks (\$1564) 7.30 Germes World (7040496) 7.45 Smipsons (\$1632) 8.15 Oprah (886038) 9.00 Horel (20570) 10.00 Another World (62583) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (63019) 12.00 Married with Children (78212) 12.30pm MASH (63075) 1.00 Geraldo (93380) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (16816) 3.00 Jenny Jones (61403) 4.00 Oprah (19800) 5.00 Star Treic Next Generation (2498) 6.00 Dieam Team (4729) 6.20 Married with Children (8309) 7.00 Stroons (3125) 7.30 Real TV (7233) 8.00 Special Stand One (34651) 9.00 Outer Limits (21187) 10.00 Millennium (24274) 11.00 Ster Treic Next Generation (63212) 12.00 Late Show (62442) 1.00em Reven (55713) 2.00 Long Pay (1226359) 7.00em Street Sharks (54564) 7.30 Games SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888. Each fam costs £2.99 per viewing

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) The Cruebble (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Beautiful (Cirls (1996) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

8.00am Out of Time (1989) (58034570) 7.40 The Karate Kid III (1989) (21726767) 9.40 The Photos of Penzance (1983) 9.00 The Pirates of Perzance (1988) (4566884) 11.40 Down Perlacope (1988) (63317941) 1.20pm Out of Three (1988) (19740545) 3.00 Memories of Me (1988) (41801) 5.00 The Karate Iod III (1989) 152451 7.00 Down Periscope (1885) (63496) 9.00 Die Hard with a Vengeence (1985) (3516662) 11.10 Cellic Pride (1986) (350496) 12.40em (1986) (31978) 2.76 Le Ceramonie (1985) (511978) 2.76 Le Ceramonie (1985) (528591) 4.05 Mover on Theaday (1988) (528591) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.40mm 78 Get By (1950) (5028922) 8.00 Stage Fright (1950) (3003) 10.00 Three Smart Girls (1955) (62053) 12.00 What Love Sees (1956) (11951) 2.00pm Left-Handed Gen (1956) 146496; 4.00 Stage Fright (1950) (20913582) 5.55 What Love

Sees (1896) (73833458) 8.00 Criminal Intent (1996) (28477) 10.00 Nim Takes a Lover (1995) (728212) 11.40 Lake (1995) (272485) 1.20am Childhood Sweethaart (1997) (610162) 3.00 Slaves of New York (1998) (55246152) 8.05 Off on a Contet (1979) (5986201) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Big Jim Micl.ain (1952) (3596583) 6.00 Forgotten City of Planet of the Apes (1974) (5032869) B.00 Hr Majestyk (1974) (5032869) B.00 Feth Beautyk (1987) (1942922) 11.45 Mississippi Burning (1988) (45070106) 1.50em The Blue Iguana (1988) (41685268) 3.20 Finders Kaepers, Lovers Weepers (1967) (31513794) A.35 Close

9.00pm Knights of the Round Table (1953) (3869047) 11.00 Red Dust (1923) (9883(212) 12.30em The Green Helmet (1961) (95736713) 2.30 Knights of the Round Table (1953) (9818713) SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (42036) 7.30 Wresting (28767) 8.30 Sports Centre (78043) 9.00 Rearing News (91545) 9.30 Aerobics (43966) 10.00 Footballers' Football Show (88187) 11.00 Fashar Batra (48380) 11.30 V. May (58309) 12.00 Aerobics (11309) 12.00 Aerobics (11309) 12.00 Aerobics (11309) 12.00 Aerobics (11309) 12.00 May (58309) 12.00 Aerobics (11309) 12.00 More (48108) 1.30 (241 Football (85729) 3.30 Tattan Edita (5477) 4.00 Footballers' Football Show (59532) 5.00 Wresting (7038) 6.00 Sports Centre (4361) 8.30 Euro Tour Weetly (6941) 7.00 Trans World Sport (65445) 8.00 NASCAR (85309) 10.00 Sports Centre (12008) 10.30 Shooker (3477) 12.30am Sports Centre (43797) 1.00 Boards (22423) 1.39 Futbol Mundal (60171) 2.00 Trans World Sport (90187) 3.00 Sports Centre (19569) 3.30 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 SKY SPORTS 2

7.00em Aerobics (5510816) 7.30 Sports Centre (552951) 8.00 Recing News (9779922) 8.30 Feb 17 (5524599) 8.30 NASCAR (9277274) 11.30 Golf Edga (4548545) 2.30pen Golf (6735922) 4.30 Snooker (1176699) 6.30 Footbell Smitzer-tend v England — Live (8483167) 8.30 Buong (3165212) 10.00 Euro Tour, Golf Weeldy (5375212) 31.00 Golf Edga (516591) 1.30em Sports Centre (8035220) 2.00 Switzerland v England (5884510) 4.00 Boxing (6548133) 4.30 Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Wrestling (22064308) 1.00pm Fish TV (22040729) 2.00 Superbouts (38327584) 0.00 Rupby Cassics (97077941) 3.30 NH. (40612380) 5.30 Watersports (83327212) 6.30 Str Prime (25935922) 7.00 Fish TV (2550380) 6.00 Sport USA (6269223) 9.30 Futbol Mundfel (22055038) 10.00 Seeselve (27764485) 40 30 Sportine Hermes er (39786486) 10.30 Sporting Heroed (95827019) 11.30 Close EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogosis (33699) 9.00 Superbite (77187) 10.30 Rally (15125) 11.00 World Cup Legends (91019) 12.00 Motocross (78467) 12.30pp Equestionism (33274) 4.00 Speachworld (51800) 8.00 Motocrosing (2106) 8.00 Tennis Mercades Super 9 — Live (66632) 8.00 Bouling (69361) 9.00 Rally (53212) 9.30 Germany v Brazil (28212) 11.30 Speechworld (79308) 12.00 Rally (31423) 12.30am Close UK GOLD

UK GOLD

7.90sm Never the Tseam (2430835) 7.35
Neighbouts (1590729) 8.00 Crossroads
(3825459) 8.25 EastEnders (2399380) 9.00
The Bill (3705729) 9.30 Howards (Way
(1837569) 10.00 Shelber (6557748) 10.30
The Sulvers (3727941) 11.00 Casually
(5273699) 12.00 Crossroads (63906477)
12.25pm Neighbours (63906477)
12.25pm Neighbours (63901564) 12.55
EastEnders (1328545) 1.20 Rose
(8767361) 2.05 Whoops Baghdad
(698941) 2.45 Say Lucky (3515361) 3.45
The Bill (3761903) 4.15 Judiet Bravo
(81828545) 5.20 EastEnders (2651903)
8.55 Big Break (482012) 6.30 The Bill
(4556309) 7.00 Data s Army (6353922) 7.40
Rising Damp (279403) 8.26 Only Fools
and Horses (6122923) 9.00 Fankly Towers
(6718287) 9.45 Blacksidder Gode Forth
(4560274) 10.25 Behveron the Links
(99130038) 11.30 Naked Video (1328485)
12.05em Spiting Image (1874713) 12.40 12.05em Spiting Image (1874713) 12.40 The Equalizer (4222959) 1.30 The Equalizer (6394193) 2.20 100 Years of Horror Ghosts (67297648) 2.50 Shopping (23895930)

8.00em The Box (1490903) 7.00 Q&E/ (3878274) 7.30 Coronelton St (3895309) 8.00 Blnd Delie (7/58485) 9.00 Fruit Among Equals (5774853) 10.00 Fortune Hunter (3884289) 11.00 Hearel Five C

(3871729) 12.00 Committee St (4571380

GRANADA PLUS



Ralph Flermes and Kristin Scott Thomas (Box Office 3)

2.00 Thorsas & Sarah (6447941) 3.00 London's Burning (6114293) 4.00 Hawain Five-O (600000) 5.00 Mission: Impossible 9971019 6.00 Fernilles (5009654) 6.30 Coronation St (5990106) 7.00 Doctor at Coronation St (5990106) For Large: (9972748) 7.90 Bookse & Snudge (589090) 8.00 London's Burning (5278274) 9.00 Coronation St (6122212) 9.30 Wheetappers & Shunters (7658466) 10.00 Mission: impossible (5291125) 11.00

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE) 5.00pm Blockbusters (97054090) 5.30 Hcy Dad II (25920061) 6.00 Byter Grove (25927274) 6.50 A Country Practice (25941854) 7.00 Landon Bridge

(97074854) 7.30 Sentch On (25947039) (97074854) 7.30 Senton On (2391/128) 8.00 10 Pencarions (97050274) 8.30 Good-night Sweetheart (97078309) 9.00 Gono to Seed (38684816) 10.00 Snowy (38687903) 11.00 St. Elsewhern (40349351) 12.00 Movin Club (92094336) 12.30 the Unexpected (82788133) 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL 6,00am Under the Umbreits Tree 6,30 Jungle Cube 7,00 Recess 7,30 Popper Ann 8,00 New Doug 8,30 Timon and Pumbea 9,00 Aladdin 9,30 Quark Pack 10,00

Amazing Arimatis 10.30 Sesame Street 11.30 Winnie the Pools 11.46 Paddington Peas 11.50 Alphabet Casile 12.00 Little Hippo 12.15pm Animal Shell 12.30 Rose and Jim 12.45 Toothbush Family 12.50 Bear in the Big Stue House 1.15 Winne the Poon 1.30 Cinp in Dale 2.00 Good Troop 2.30 single Cubs 3.00 firms and Pumbas 3.30 New Doug 4.00 Pepper Ann 4.30 Rocess 5.00 Sixen Guy 5.30 Sudert Bodes 6.00 Teon Angel 6.30 Boy Meet: World 7.00 Pfs.lit: Return of the Shaggy Dog (1987) 8.30 Words: Years 9.00

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6,00em Power Rangers Zeo 6.25 Crazy

Crow 8.30 Power Rangers Zeo 7.00 X Men 7.35 Mortal Kombat 8.00 Gooseburros 8.35 Mesked Rider 8.00 The Magic Box 9.30 Dusley the Dragon 10.00 Pincochio 10.30 Pozer Pari 11.00 Oliver Tyast 11.30 Hucklebeny Finn 12.00 Gutwer's Tra 12.30pm, X Man 1.00 Spiderman 1.30 iro Man 2.00 Fentastic Four 2.25 Adventures o Man 2.00 Fantastic Four 2.25 Adventures of Dodo 2.30 Power Rangert Zeo 3.00 B-g Bad Beetleborgs 3.30 Maskad Rider 4.00 Life With Louis 4.25 Life With Louis 5.00 6.00em Big Dish 6.30 Oscer's Dichestra 7.00 Sprou 7.30 Dennis the Menace 8.00 Ocean Odyssey 8.30 Spotbinder II 9.00 Road to Archies 10.00 AJ's Time Travellers

Grantor 12.00 Sprou 12.30pm Oscar's Orchestra 1.00 Sperbinder li 1.30 AJ's

Time Travellers 2.00 briogoud 2.30 Flash Gordon 3.00 Gigantor 3.30 Big Dish 4.00

CARTOON NETWORK All your fevounte dantoons broadcast from 5,00am to 9,00pm, saven days a week NICKELODEON

6.00em Count Duckula 6.30 Ren and 6.00cm Court Duclate 6.30 Ren and Smrpy 7.00 Array Beavers 7.30 Rugrais 8.00 Doug 8.30 Anthur 9.00 CBBC 10.00 Winnse's House 10.30 Bahar 11.00 Mago: School Bus 11.30 PB Beer eto 12.00 Rugrais 12.30pm Blues Clues 1.00 Clong-ers 1.30 Mupper Babes 2.00 Freggis Rock 2.30 Avert and the Chipmunis 3.00 Jumanis 3.30 Doug 4.00 Hey Amobil 4.30 Captain Sax 5.00 Rugrais 5.30 Scter Sister 6.00 Renford Reyolds 8.30 Namen and Kel

TROUBLE

12.00 Swan's Crossing 12.30pm Sweat 1.00 Echo Point 1.30 Heartbreek High 2.00 Saved by the Bell 2.30 Swan's Crossing 3.00 it's in the Jeans 3.15 On the Meke 3.30 Hearthreak High 4.00 Hollyoaks 4.30 Saved by the Bell 5.00 USA High 8.30 Sweet 6.00 Echo Point 8.30 Bangs 6.45 Rush 7.00 USA High 7.30 Hollyceld CHALLENGE TV 5.00pm Fifteen-to-One 5.50 Family For tunos 5.30 Carcipphase 7.05 Blockbuster

7,30 Give Us a Club 8.00 All Clubd Up 8.30

Whattle 9.15 Sale of the Century 10.00 Treasure Hunt 11.15 3-2-1 12.30am Moon-3.50 Jaux sans Frontieres 5.00 Screenshop BRAVO Duty (6307651) 10.00 Basement (3704090) 10.30 Rad Shoe Draries (3720036) 11.00 FILM: Rega and Honour (1962) (312293) 1.00am Basement (7075891) 1.30 Tour of Duty (3517930) 2.30 FiLMs Draemboat (3518201) 4.30 Red Shoe Diaries (7063046) 8.00 A-Team (4708171) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

Armstrong and Miller II (38903) 11.30 Grace Under Fire (75583) 12.00 Ellen (44997) 12.30am Nurse: (43779) 1.00 Cheers (20065) 1.30 Roseame (68713) 2.00 Caroline in the Cay (14065) 2.30 Amistron and Maler II (93572) 3.00 Fresier (63571 3.30 Duckman (17152) 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00mm Ousman Leap (9767380) 9.00 The Cape 9754816; 10.00 20.000 Leagues Under the Sea (188651) 12.00 Signings (1752423) 1.00em Space Angel (1760171) 1.30 Ray Bradbury Theatre (9145423) 2.00 Finday the 13th (5880713) 3.00 Tales of the Unexpected (1757607) 3.30 Dark Shadow (5633423) 4.00 Close

9.00cm The Joy of Painting 9.30 Garden Club 10.00 Gardens without Borders 10.30

The Furniture Guys 11.00 Total Fishing with Mat Haves 11.30 Hometime 12.00 Wheel Nuts 12.30pm This Old House 1.00 Yar Can Cook 1.30 Antiques Trail 2.00 Home maker 2.30 The Log Cabin 3.08 Two's Country 3.30 This Old House 4.00 Close DISCOVERY 4.00pm Rex Hum Speciels (4549922) 4.30 Diseator (4545106) 5.00 Top Marques (6035449) 5.30 Treasure Hunters (4536459)

6.00 Welk on the Wild Side (1847941) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (6130093) 7.30 Ancient Warners (4548635) 8.00 Ghosthunters (4130813) 8.30 The Quest (1180598) 9.00 Changes of the Gods The Myste Continua (5310125) 10.00 Killor Virus (5313212) 11.00 Extreme Machines (5252106) 12.00 Britain's Secret Wemons (8082335) 1.00em Ancient Wemons (7088355) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (3019775) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.90pm Wild South (9914090) 7.30 EARTH-QUAKE (9770632) 8 00 Costa Birst Partne the Gargenauans (8837699) 10.00 The Power of Waler (9683729) 11.00 Islands of the louena (9529380) 12.00 The Soul of

TRAVEL (CABLE)

12.00 Travel Live 1.00pm Goller's Travet.
1.30 Floyd Cn Oz 2.00 Tread The Mod 2.30 Great Escape 3.00 Fork in The Road 3.30 Worthande Guide 4.00 Ribbons Oil Steel 4.30 Rayours Oil France 5.00 Goller's Travets 5.30 Raiway Adventures 8.00 Floyd On Oz 6.30 Tread The Med 7.00 Hoticaly Maker 8.00 Stepping The World 8.30 On Tour 9.00 Granger's World 10.00 Great Escape 10.30 Fork in The Road 11.00 Worldwide Guide 11.30 Pkgg Rider Workswide Guide 11.30 Ridge Riders THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The Red Empire (8057800) 5.00 Century (4320926) 8.00 Ancient Mysterios (3163767) 7.00 Biography — Charlion Hes-ton (6376941) 8.00 Close CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Food for Thought 10.00 Feasts of the World 10.30 What's Cooking? 11.00 World Thompson Cooks 11.30 Graham Ker's Kitchen 12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30pm A Year at Bellymsice 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30

From the Ground Up 2.00 Chez Bruno 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Narcy Lam's Wol. Wiz 3.30 Worrall Thompson Cooks 4.00 A Taste of the Caribbean 4.30 So You Think You Can't Cook 5.00 Close 6,00am Tiny Lvyng 9,00 Ready, Sready, Cook 9,35 Hart to Hart 10,30 The Young and the Restless 11,20 Brookside 11,50 and the Hessess 11,20 Brookside 11,50 Jimmy's 12,20pm Diet Show 12,50 Rissurd 911 1,25 Admonstin Jurides 2,20 Living it Up! 3,20 Jeny Springer 4,10 Tempest 5,00 The Heat is On 5,30 Ready, Spady, Cook 6,10 Jeny Springer 7,00 Rescus 911 7,30 Mystenes, Megic and Miracles 8,00 Munder Call 9,00 FLM Woman Scorned 11,00 The Ser Files 12,00 Close

ZEE TV

6.30em Kajagor Beo 7.00 Jaagian 7.30 Ghoomta Aalna 8.00 News 8.30 Aahaa 9.00 Manabi 9.30 Out and About 10.00 Tgra 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Damar 12.00 FILM 3.00pm Hum Aapke Han Woh 3.30 Damar 4.00 Hum Paanch 4.36 Liberty 5.00 Firm Basten 5.30 Teen Do Peanch 5.00 Firm Basten 5.30 Teen Do Peanch 6.00 Baregr April Bast 8.30 All Time Hits 7.00 Yen Hat Zindagi 7.30 Bast Beat Jack 9.00 News 8.30 Destaen 9.00 Yeh Zindagi 10.00 ZEE Business Show 10.30 ZEE Top 10 11.00 Purush Kshetra 12.00 Close



WEDNESDAY MARCH 25 1998

Middlesbrough may field new signing at Wembley after £3 million move from Rangers

Cup final lure too strong for Gascoigne

PAUL GASCOIGNE could appear for Middlesbrough in the Coca-Cola Cup final on Sunday after ending a week of deliberation yesterday by agreeing to join them. The £3 million transfer is, according to Middlesbrough, "subject to a stringent medical in the morning" and, given Gascoigne's history of injuries, his move from Rangers is by no means a foregone conclusion - but should he satisfy the doctors today, another extraordinary chapter in his

career beckons. Wembley was the setting for Gascoigne's last domestic ap-pearance for an English club. when he was taken from the field on a stretcher just minutes into the FA Cup Final between Tottenham Hotspur and Nottingham Forest seven

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, indicated yesterday that it could also be the stage for a remarkable return to the English game. after a sojourn first in Italy, with Lazio, and then in Glasgow. The England midfield player, 30, has started just one game for Rangers since Christmas, but his next appearance could be on Sunday against Chelsea.

Gazza will be part of my thinking for Wembley, defi-nitely," Robson said last night. He only played 20 minutes for Rangers on Sunday and we will have a full medical to assess his fitness, but he will be in the squad.

"He is a quality player and he will bring something very different to the squad. Gazza is undoubtedly a player of international quality and we need serious ambitions of getting this club back where we want

Gascoigne decided to join

Middlesbrough only after lengthy deliberation and at least two changes of mind. At one point, early yesterday afternoon, he informed Rangers that he wanted to stay with them, but, after further discussions with David Murray, the owner, and Walter Smith, the manager, he finally decided to return to the North East.

Among the factors to have helped him to decide was the persuasive influence of Paul Merson, his England col-league and a close friend. The prospect of playing in the Coca-Cola Cup final was also strong. Gascoigne has signed a 312-year contract and, provided that Middlesbrough go on to earn promotion from the Nationwide League first division, will be playing in

Hall returns Downbeat Hoddle

the Premiership again next Mel Stein, Gascoigne's

adviser, said that the move represented "a dream come true for Paul". Stein explained that Gascoigne had been in-volved in talks with Rangers officials all afternoon. "It comes as an enormous wrench," he said. "Leaving is definitely the hardest decision of his career — he loved life in Glasgow, loved the club — but David Murray and Walter Smith have been very fair. They said he should do what he felt was right. When you think about it, it's a dream

That Middlesbrough are taking something of a risk is illustrated by his last appearance in a domestic game at

really, making his debut in a

Wembley. The darker side of his nature was exposed that day and the player sustained an injury that was the first in a long line that make the medical examination today so uncertain. Gascoigne suffered ruptured knee ligaments when making a reckless chall-enge on Gary Charles, the

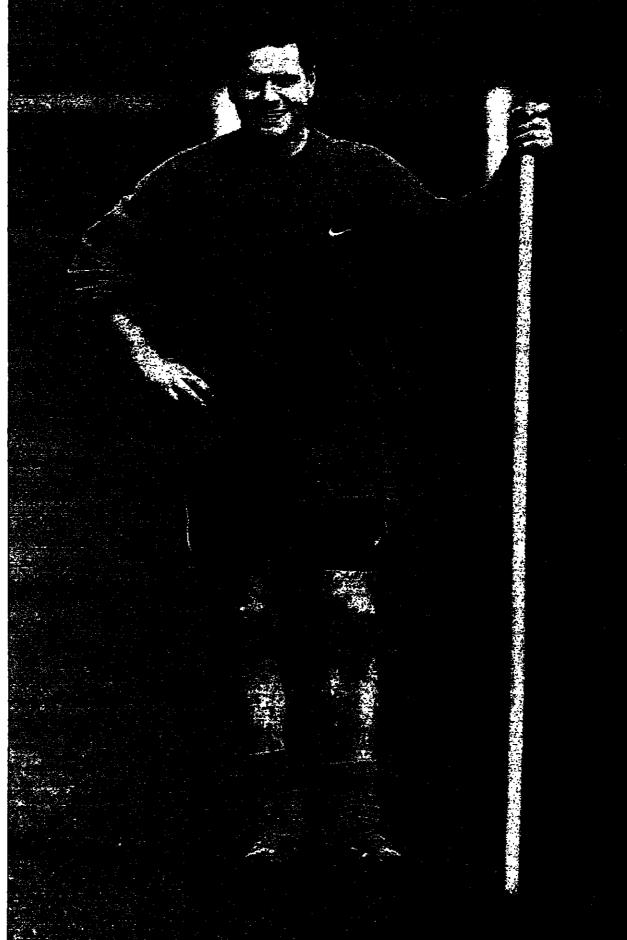
Nottingham Forest defender. Since then, Gascoigne has travelled across Europe and appeared in the European championship semi-final, but his behaviour has still attracted criticism.

To Steve Gibson, though, there is no risk attached to a transfer that could cost his club a total of £4 million should Gascoigne make a significant number of appearances. "The bottom line is that he is a quality player," the Middlesbrough chairman said. "There have been problems in the past, but Bryan Robson knows him well and he is the football judge at this

Bryan knows what he is doing. We are looking for players of Paul's quality to take this club back up into the Premiership. Bryan wants to bring more like him here in the summer and we will find the resources to make that happen if we win promotion We want to be successful and we have to sign quality players to do that.

Gascoigne has revealed that was Merson's influence, plus his close relationship with Robson, that finally persuaded him to travel to Teesside. Merson, the former Arsenal forward, has rejuvenated his career after making been in touch with his friend constantly to suggest that the same thing could happen to

Gascoigne was in Glasgow last night and will travel to Middlesbrough today. Provided that he passes the medical, he hopes to then join his new team-mates for a training session.



Gascoigne gives photographers a smile as he trains with Rangers for the last time yesterday before agreeing to his transfer al at the Riverside Stadium.

Indeed, West Indies were

working to a misguided, one-

dimensional plan as Rose,

too, bounced both batsmen

the bounce true they generally

hooked soberly and safely.

outcome of the straining to

pepper the middle of the pitch

was a preponderance of noballs, from one of which Hussain aimed a blind hook

at Rose and was dropped by

Walsh at square leg. The evidence suggested neither batsman nor fielder had heard the

Whenever he did pitch the

ball up, Ambrose was still the

likeliest wicket-taker. In his

second over, with seven men

predatory around the bat, he

found the edge of Thorpe's bat.

and the ball was no more than

an inch from carrying to first

slip, where Lara acknowl-

edged the half-volley before

leaving the field for treatment

Hussain also lived danger-

ously once more, riskily carv-

ing Ambrose over the slips for

four, but soon both men were

back in control. For a time, the

bowling was so predictable

that they could almost prepare

to pull or duck every ball, and

they did so with relish.

to a sore finger.

Not quite always, though. One

Both love to hook, but with

Noades denies making offer

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RON NOADES, the Crystal Palace chairman, last night denied that his club had made a £3 million bid for Paul Gascoigne and insisted that they had only wanted the England midfield player on loan until the end of the

"Palace have not made any sort of bid to acquire the player's services," Noades said. "I have seen the continuing reports of a £3 million bid that we apparently have made along with Middles-brough and the player making up his mind as to whether he wishes to stay at Rangers or move on. From this club's point of view, we have not made an offer to Rangers for

the player's services."

Noades, who appeared to contradict what Mark Goldberg - who is in the process of taking over the struggling FA Carling Premiership club — had been saying, said: "In paying a transfer fee for Gascoiene"

"We would certainly have been interested if he had been available for the rest of this season, but if it was a commitsummer — then we wouldn't have been taking up the loan

Middlesbrough will be Gascoigne's fifth club in turbulent career that began with Newcastle United in 1983. After 106 appearances and 22 goals, he moved to Tettenham Hotspur for £2 million in 1988, the year in vinch he made his debut for

England.
Afterdamaging cruciate lig-aments in a knee in the 1991 FA Cup Final against Nottingham Forest Gascoigne was out of football for 16 months, delaying a 25.5 mil-tion transfer to Lazio, the Italian club. After further injuries disrupted his club coigne moved to Rangers for £4.5 million, where he has helped the Glasgow club to their two most recent Scottish

League championships. Now he will return to the North East and follow Juninho, Emerson, Fabriz? Ravancili and Paul Merson as the latest high-profile arriv-

SWORD

1 Cumulative; an extra put in

Comfortably placed (7.6)

(Session) generating ideas

"These are pearls that were his —" (Tempest) (4)

The struggle to get on (3.4)

21 Some punctuation; hurry

Waste away (7)

8 A religious (4)

17 Twist in agony (6)

20 (Grass) cut (4)

ACROSS

10 Tell (tale) (7)

- Domed church recess (4) Encode (transmission); hur-ry awkwardly (8) 9 The same again (5)
- 11 Thin Bow (7) 12 Horrid smell (4) 14 Caprice: an erratic action (6) 16 A mollusc, Walrus/Carpenter
- 18 Badly-behaved child (4) 19 Repentant sorrow (7) 22 Exert magnetic influence
- 23 Outlandish (5) 24 Allergic complaint: Coward
- ACROSS: 1 Whopper 5 Envy 9 Leper 10 Parched 11 Je ne sais quoi 12 Sister 13 Switch 16 Propagandist 19 Optical 20 Waive. 21 Trot 22 Carry on DOWN: 1 Will 2 Orpheus 3 Perseverance 4 Repeat

6 Nehru 7 Yiddish 8 Grass widower 12 Support

14 Testify 15 Gartic 17 Outdo 18 Wean

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restores England dignity enjoying it. Clearing skies allowed a start after lunch Thorpe, too, was at his best, FROM ALAN LEE picking off some overdone taking length from which he had hardly deviated all series.

Hussain-Thorpe partnership

CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND have waited through a long and dramatic Test series for the engine-room of their batting to function at its best. On the final afternoon, it came good, Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe leading the side towards safety in the sixth Test match and dignity in the series with a partnership of impressive command.

Even a draw would be insufficient to persuade Michael Atherton that there was any future in remaining among the slings and arrows associated with the captaincy. Yet as he watched, his resignation already planned, there was the satisfaction of restored

Reprieved until after lunch by squally morning rain, Eng-land resumed still 200 runs short of avoiding an innings defeat and with the odds not obviously in their favour. Hussain and Thorpe were not to be parted, however, as they sought to avoid an entirely unrepresentative 3-1 defeat.

Hussain's first century of

this series, and his sixth in Test cricket, was a timely restatement of qualities that were beginning to be doubted. He has found some unlucky ways to get out, some wasteful ways and some worrying ways, holding his technique up to scrutiny, but at the last, he negotiated everything West Indies threw at him with character and composure. When he completed his first hundred against them with a scampered single, he celebrated with an explosion of relief

that was easy to understand.

short-pitched bowling with elan and playing to his limitations, which are considerable. against spin. His tour has come good in the past fort-night; he probably wishes that the series still had weeks to

The contribution of this pair

- and especially their ability to bat for long periods in a right-hand and left-hand partnership — was central to England's planning for the tour. They were two of the players David Lloyd calls his bankers", but fulfilment of the hope has been a long time in coming, one of many rea-sons for England's failure to achieve what they might have

The morning rain was sudden and spectacular and England, deprived of potential weather in Barbados, will have had no scruples about

and, technically, left West indies 75 overs to take the remaining seven wickets. With the new ball available it was easy to envisage them needing far fewer, but that docility of the pitch and the tenacity of Hussain and

Brian Lara, who had used his spinners enthusiastically Monday, experimented with four more overs of Hooper and Ramnarine before summoning Ambrose and Rose to share the new ball. Walsh's demotion seemed curious, but his subsequent, uninspired spell spoke of a bowler with nothing left to

Ambrose, by contrast, still bounced in with the joy of a man who knows that he can bank on another year's Test not use the new ball wisely,

SCOREBOARD FROM ANTIGUA

ENGLAND: First Innings Rammarine 4 for 29)

Second trinings "M A Atherion law b Ambrose (59min, 40 bels, 1 four) A J Stewart c Wallace b Hooper (177min, 132 bels, 9 fours) M A Butcher c Murray b Ambrose

(9min, 6 balks) N Hussam not cut. (358mm, 300 balls, 14 fours) G P Thorpe not out. (256mm, 222 balls, 4 lours) Extras (b 6, lb 3, nb 11) Total (3 wids, 114 overs, 428min). 275

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45 (Stewart 29), 2-49 (Stewart 33), 3-127 (Hussain 31). BOWLING: Watsh 25-6-71-0 (nb 2: 80M, RG: Waish 25-6-7-0 (rb 2 7 fours, 4-0-12-0, 1-0-30, 3-15-0, 5-1-17-0, 5-3-4-0, 7-1-30-0), Ambrose 19-5-65-2 (rib 7 8 fours, 6-2-30-0, 4-1-11-2, 1-0-4-0, 8-2-5-0); Hose 11-2-39-0 (rb 7 5 fours, 2-0-5-0, 3-1-5-0, 2-1-10-0, 4-0-18-0); Rammarine 32-10-53-0 (rb 3 5 fours; 1-0-2-0, 1-0-1-0, 18-5-38-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 4-3-10-53-0, 41-0, 8-2-13-0); Hooper 27-13-38-1 (3 lours, 15-5-25-1, 8-7-4-0, 4-1-9-0).

WEST INDIES: First Innings 500 for 7 dec (C L Hooper 108 not out, C B Lambert 104, P A Wallace 92, B C Lara

SCORING NOTES: Fifth day: Rain prevented play before lunch. Tea. 275-2 (114 overs, 428min; Hussein 102, Thorpe 61). Second new ball taken at 12.57pm; England 174-3 (83 overs).

The diligence of the stand was established on the fourth Umpires: S A Bucknor and C J Mitchley (South Africa). Third umpire: P Whyte. Match referee: B N Jamman (Australia). evening, when 36 overs together brought them only 46 runs. SERIES DETAILS: First Test (Kingston), Match drawn, Second Test (Port of Spain): West Indias won by three wickets. Third Test (Port of Spain): England won by three wickets. Fourth Test (Georgetown); West Indies won by 242 runs. Fifth Test (Bridgetown): Metch drawn. Runs came easier now, though, and the century partnership was recorded in 196 minutes, just before Lara decided to shelve his aerial bembardment and return to

PARIS 106

BRUSSELS from 109

BRUGES from 10

BY AIR

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